

Local government finance

Council spending laws seriously flawed and need review, MPs say

By Martin Fletcher, Political Reporter

Government legislation introduced in 1981 to control the capital expenditure of local authorities has proved to be "seriously flawed", a senior Commons select committee concluded yesterday.

It also notes that government forecasts of local authority net capital spending have been wildly out, and says that since these forecasts form the basis for the Government's plans and policies for the following year, we are concerned that they should continue to show such wide margins of error.

It also notes that because local authorities have this power, and because their resources are finite, they have been unwilling to give priority to maintenance of roads, schools and housing stock.

Problems of car tax cases

The "derisory" level of fines imposed on car tax dodgers, which were condemned by a Commons Select Committee on Wednesday, were yesterday explained by a senior chief clerk at a London court.

Girl shot herself in game

A girl, aged 12, killed herself with her father's shotgun in a game that went tragically wrong, a coroner said yesterday.

Football club fire inquiry 'stopped'

A safety inspector was told by the Health and Safety Executive to stop investigations into the fire at Bradford City Football Club, the High Court sitting at Leeds was told yesterday.



Mrs Mopp fulfils her dream to be 'mayor'

A retired cleaner climbed into the mayoral chair at Lewisham Town Hall yesterday and held a mock council meeting while the real mayor, Mr Norman Smith, donned a pinstripe and got on with the cleaning.

Mr Smith had nothing but praise for his temporary deputy. "It's hard work this," he said, as he cleaned on his hands and knees.

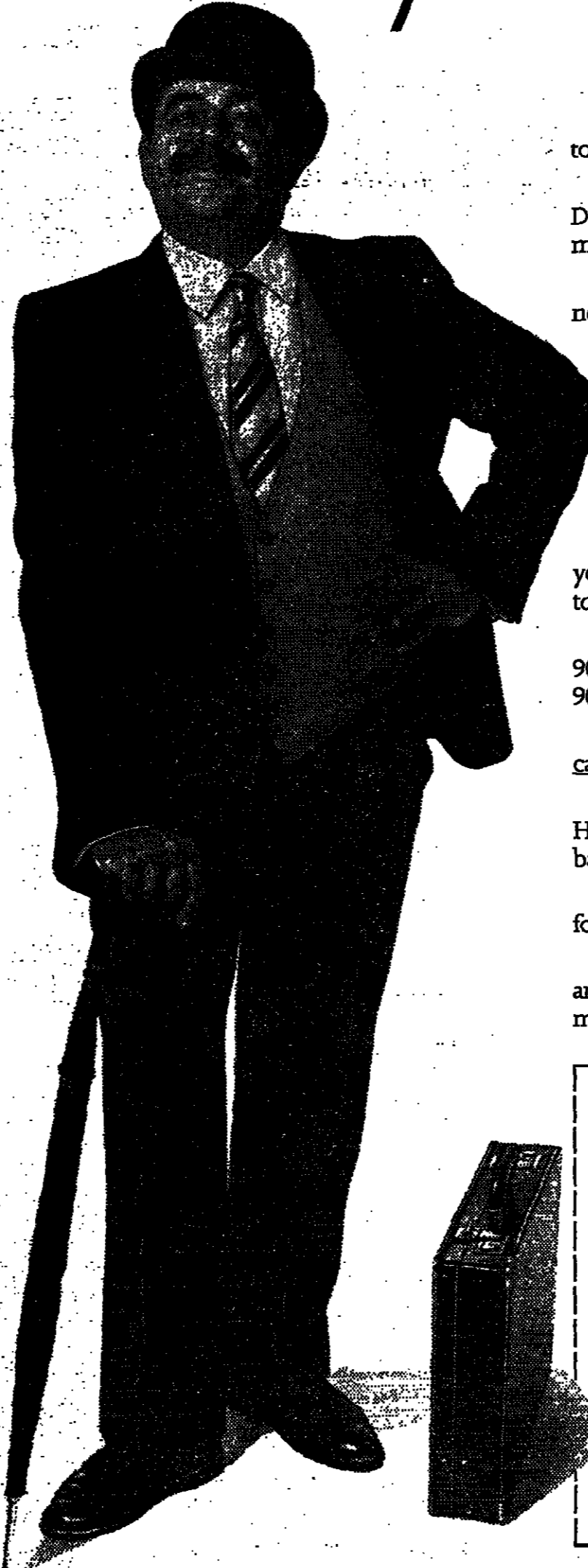
Police 'hired to kill Gandhi'

A man from Leicester said to be the ringleader of a gang of Sikhs that allegedly plotted to kill Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, told Birmingham Crown Court yesterday he was trying only to settle a bad debt.

Mr Ramana claimed that his former business partner had cheated him out of £300,000. He wanted to recover the money and so he had agreed to his friend's suggestion.

Mr Ramana, Mr Sukhvinder Singh Gill, aged 30, of Worthington Street, Leicester and Mr Parmatma Singh Marwaha, aged 44, of Kedleston Road, Leicester, have denied conspiring to commit murder and soliciting others to commit murder.

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Study of sex crime raises concern over child abuse

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

A high proportion of sexual crime is committed against children, according to the annual criminal statistics for England and Wales published yesterday. The figures will add to mounting concern about abuse of children. A survey of information held by 18 police forces estimates that 24.9 per cent of recorded buggery and indecent assaults on males were on boys up to nine years old, and a further 36.7 per cent on boys aged 10 to 15.

The peak years for indecent assault on girls are 10-15 (28.2 per cent) and 12.1 per cent were against girls aged nine or under. No less than 20.8 per cent of rapes recorded were against girls aged 15 or under.

This week, Mr Douglas Hogg, Parliamentary Under-Secretary at the Home Office, said: "Child abuse is wicked and shameful. It is a blot on our society and a stain on our national character."

Mr Hogg was speaking as chairman of the standing conference on crime prevention, which in the next 12 months will concentrate on young people and crime. One of its working groups will consider child abuse.

The police figures are for 1984 and also show that males had a higher risk of robbery than females but a lower risk for theft from the person, most victims of both types of offence being aged under 40.

The annual criminal statistics, which are for 1985, differentiate between offences initially recorded as homicide and those that are currently so.

Offences currently recorded as homicide have risen over the past 10 years from 443 in 1975 to 563 in 1985.

Those attributed to gang warfare, feud or faction rose to

10, the most in the last 10 years.

For the first time in that period there were no homicides attributed to acts of terrorism recorded. A footnote says that one offence occurred in 1985 but was not recorded by police until this year.

The total number of offences initially recorded as homicide in the 10-year period from 1976 was about 30 per cent higher than in the period 1966 to 1975.

Since January 31, 1983 courts have been able to award compensation orders as the sole or main penalty. In 1985, about 3,400 such orders were made (3 per cent of the total), compared with 2,600 in 1984.

The peak age of known offending per 100,000 population was 15 years for males and 14 years for females.

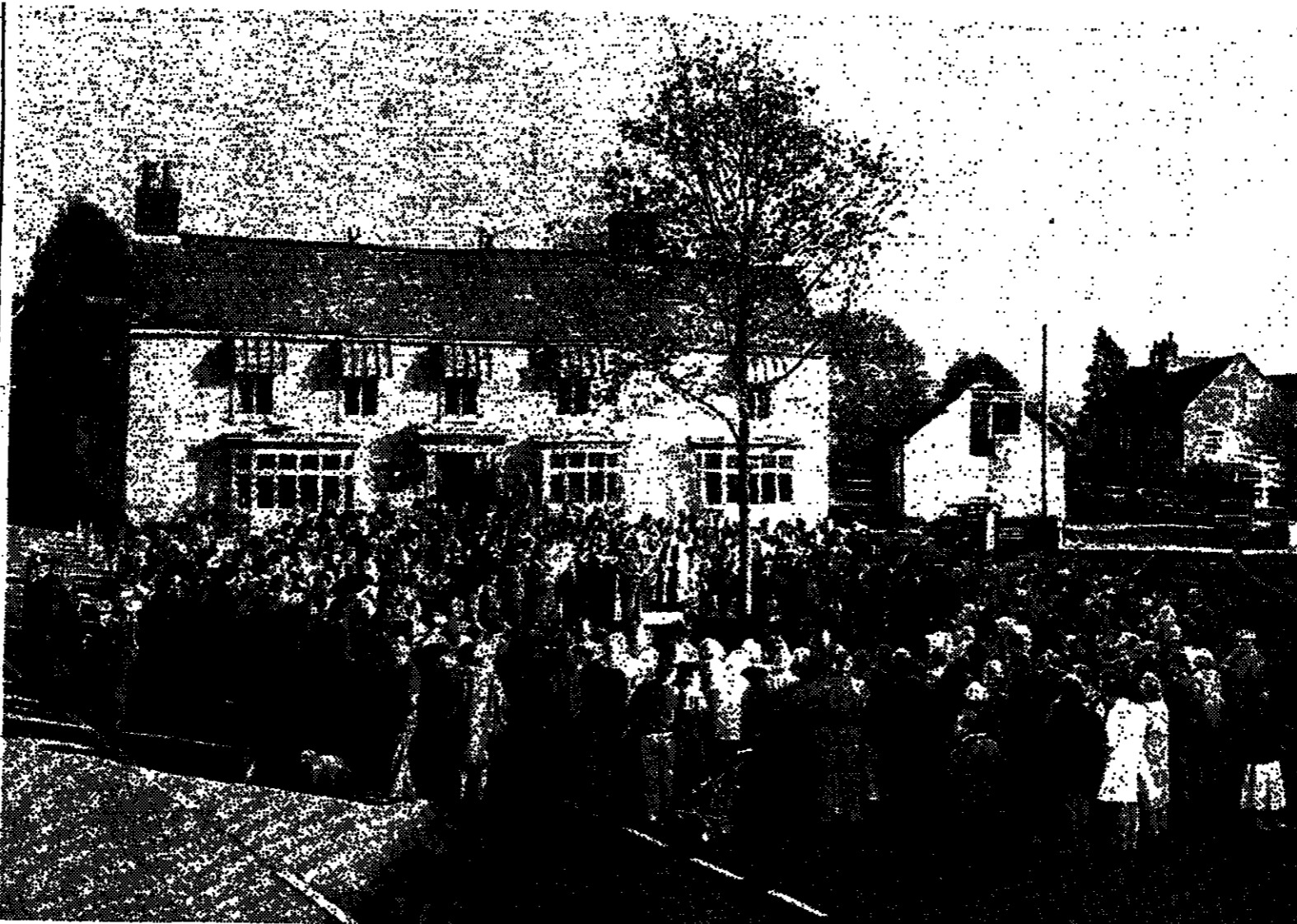
The most law-abiding police force area was Dyfed-Powys, with 3,734 notifiable offences recorded per 100,000 population; the most crime prone was Greater Manchester with 11,202, less law abiding even than the Metropolitan Police District, London, with 10,257.

Overall the number of offences per 100,000 population has risen from 1,054 in 1950 to 6,885 last year.

The statistics say that much of the growth in the overall total of offences in which firearms were reported to have been used was due to criminal damage and air weapons offences.

But in 1985 a total of 9,700 offences were recorded by police involving firearms; the highest figure recorded and 16 per cent above that for 1984 and 1982.

Criminal Statistics England and Wales 1985, Command 10 (Stationery Office, £14.20).



Villagers taking part in the blessing ceremony for the oak which has replaced the elm at the centre of Ramsbury (Photograph: Ros Drinkwater).

Village unites around oak

The battle of Ramsbury's tree ended in reconciliation yesterday with the planting of a young oak in the village square.

The oak replaced the Wiltshire village's legendary elm, which stood at the centre of village life for more than 300 years, so loved by residents that it took four years of argument to decide to cut down the dead and diseased stump.

Yesterday, a month after the elm was felled, a 30-year-old oak from Epping Forest, donated by the West of England Building Society, was lowered into the waiting hole and blessed by Bishop John Neale, of Ramsbury.

The bishop said: "With a life expectancy of 400 years,

the tree is a symbol of faith in the future."

Mr Charlie Braxton, aged 76, one of the oldest residents, and Simon Randall, aged five, picked by lot from Ramsbury Primary School's youngest class, helped to heap in earth. Mr Braxton is said to have proposed under the old tree.

Mr George Hawse, chairman of the parish council, sees the planting as the main achievement of his four-year term of office and an important issue for the spring elections.

He said: "The tree is the centre and symbol of Ramsbury, the living tree represents the growth and rejuvenation of the village."

Divided as they may have been over the fate of their old tree, Ramsburians are united in

pride for their warm and neighbourly community.

Mr and Mrs Bud Quick, from Vesuvius, Virginia, fell in love under the elm during the war, when Mr Quick was stationed at the US base outside the village. His wife-to-be had been evacuated from London. Yesterday they came back to represent US servicemen at the ceremony.

Mr Quick said: "I hope the oak will be for the young folks what the old tree was for us."

One thing is certain. The curse of Maude Toppod, the witch who lived in the Great Elm, that no girls would be born in the village if the tree was cut down, has not come true. The old spirits of the village must be satisfied.

Jobless recruited to combat crime

By Ronald Faux, Employment Affairs Correspondent

More than 200 long-term unemployed men and women in Northumbria are to join the police force and help to fight crime.

Some of them have been jobless for more than a year. They are to assist Northumbria police with their inquiries under a Manpower Services Commission community programme, which is managed by the force.

Some will act as assistants to men on the beat, others will free officers from time-consuming desk duties to spend more time in the community detecting and preventing crime, a spokes-

man for the Northumbrian force said.

The 23 "beat assistants" will accompany police officers on the beat as "non-sworn civilians" in civilian dress. They will help neighbourhood watch and victim support schemes, deliver crime-prevention literature and liaise with community groups.

Northumbria police has set up 700 neighbourhood watch schemes, 400 in the past year.

The aim of the programme is to raise the prospects of the unemployed finding a permanent job by giving them confidence and a sense of hope.

Fresh call for inquiry into sea disaster

By Angella Johnson

Relatives of 44 crew members who died when a British cargo ship, the Derbyshire, sank mysteriously in 1980, have called on the Department of Transport to hold a public inquiry into the loss.

Over the years three shipping ministers have turned down demands for an inquiry. But relatives are hoping their campaign will carry greater weight after the discovery of serious cracks in a sister ship, the Kowloon Bridge, which was forced to seek shelter off the west coast of Ireland yesterday.

Lord Brabazon of Tara, the Under Secretary of State for Transport, has already ruled out the possibility of further investigations. But last night the Department of Transport said it would be monitoring events following the Kowloon Bridge discovery.

Mr Neil Rapley, whose brother died on the Derbyshire, said he wanted an inquiry to establish if construction faults contributed to the sinking. "I am convinced the ship floundered because of cracks constructed through the way it was built," he said.

"I believe an inquiry will clear the names of the crew who are always suspect when something like this happens."

Six ships of the class were built by Swan Hunter on Teesside. At least two have been found to have cracks in the bulkhead area, at the rear of the ships. Mr Rapley believes such cracks may have caused the loss of the Derbyshire.

The Derbyshire was carrying a cargo of iron ore when it was lost in a typhoon in the Pacific. There was no distress message and no wreckage or survivors were found.

The Kowloon Bridge was on its way from Canada to Scotland with a similar load when cracks were found on its bridge.

Both Swan Hunter and Bibby, owners of the Derbyshire, are being sued by relatives of the men who disappeared with the ship.

Britain 'best' for quality of water

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

Britain's record in complying with EEC directives on water quality and pollution is the best in Europe, a survey by the Water Authorities Association claims.

Its findings, which include a "league table" of actions brought before the European Court, are based on the analysis of a report published by European Environmental Bureau.

Belgium is the worst of the list of offenders, followed by Italy, although there are many proceedings against Greece which have yet to be heard.

In contrast only Britain has had no actions brought before the European Court in the environmental field, the survey claims.

The news will come as a surprise to environmental groups, since four of the 10 water authorities in England and Wales have had to request exemption from EEC directives on the level of nitrates in drinking water supplies.

At a meeting of the National Farmers' Union in London yesterday, Mr David Nash, the deputy president, urged the Government to initiate more research on the use of nitrogen fertilizers.

He said: "Increasing levels of nitrates have been recorded in water supplies. There is no positive evidence of public health being affected at present, but we acknowledge that the trend must be checked."

Builder is freed on 11 charges

A man was released from custody yesterday after 11 firearm and robbery charges against him were dropped.

Mr George Ince, aged 50, a builder, of Fairfield Road, Bow, east London, had been held in custody on one robbery charge, three charges of attempted robbery, three charges of conspiring to rob and four of unlawfully having firearms for robbery.

Before leaving the dock at Lambeth Magistrates' Court, Mr Ince was charged with dishonestly handling a quantity of stolen road fund licences.

He was granted unconditional bail to appear at Waltham Forest Magistrates' Court on December 11.

£63,000 for worker who dare not laugh

Mr Robert Bradshaw, a factory worker who must not laugh because it triggers asthma attacks, won £62,991 damages in the High Court yesterday for disabilities caused by exposure to chemical fumes at work.

Mr Bradshaw, aged 66, of Darwen, Lancashire, has been told he has five years or less to live, Mr Justice Rose said.

The judge said that ventilation at the factory was inadequate and he ordered Mr Bradshaw's former employers, Crown Decorative Products, of Darwen, who denied liability, to pay the damages and costs.

Assault on Marilyn

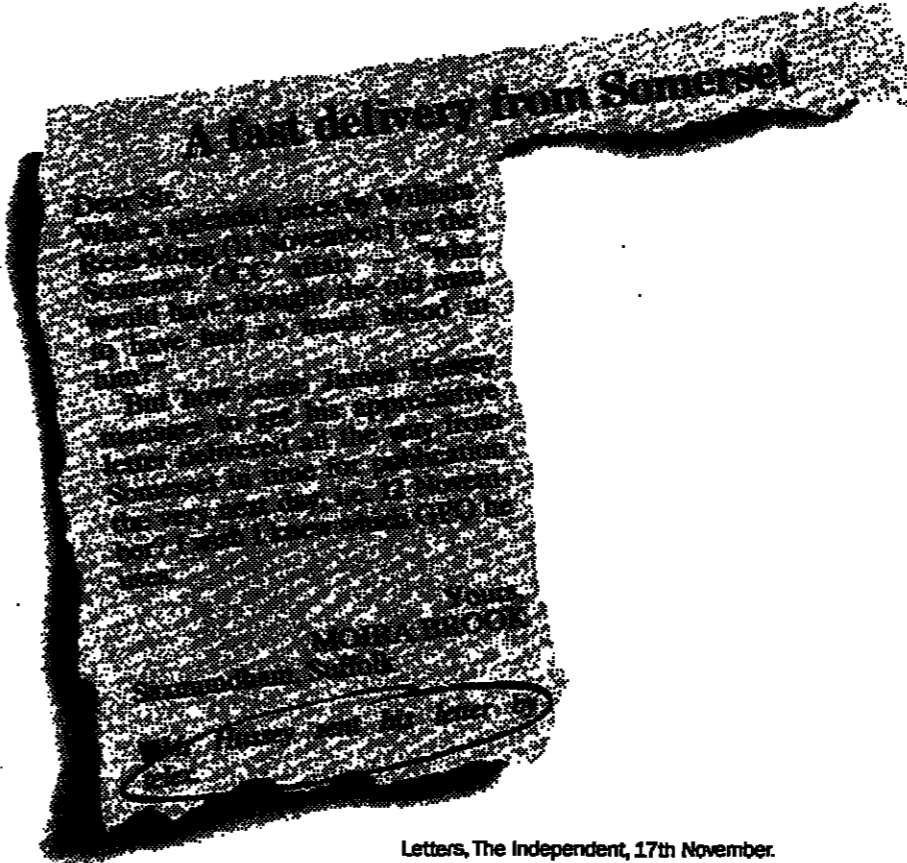
Matthew Fitzgibbon, aged 51, a taxi driver of Peterborough Road, Leyton, east London, appeared before magistrates at St Albans yesterday accused of assaulting Marilyn, the pop singer, on October 18 at the Park Street roundabout in the town.

Mr Michael Demidecki, defending, told the court his client would be pleading not guilty and wanted to go for trial before a crown court jury. The case was adjourned until December 18.

Miners given loan deadline

Northumberland County Council yesterday imposed a six-week deadline on 500 miners' families who have not started paying back money lent during the pit strike.

The council, which is owed £90,000, gave a warning that unless the families agreed to start paying by December 31, they could face legal action.



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MPs defend reform of parole as 'valuable'

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

A parole scheme reform which cut the prison population by 2,000 is being defended by MPs against attack by some academic lawyers and members of the judiciary.

The all-party Penal Affairs Group has urged Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, to stand by the recent extension of the parole scheme to include many short-term prisoners.

The MPs say that yielding to the criticism by repealing or truncating the measure which brought in the reform would result in a substantial rise in the prison population.

Mr John Wheeler, Conservative MP for Westminster North and the group's acting chairman, says that while it understands the argument of the critics, the group does not accept it.

"Those who criticize the new arrangements argue that they are unacceptable because in their view there is now no practical difference in most cases between a sentence of nine months, 15 months and 18 months, as all are likely to result in six months' custody, followed by release on parole."

Mr Wheeler says the argument assumes that release on parole for short-term prisoners is virtually automatic. That is not the case, he says. More than 20 per cent of short-term prisoners considered for parole do not receive it.

Secondly, the longer the sentence, the longer the period for which the released prisoner is subject to parole supervision and liable to be recalled to prison if he does not co-operate.

Mr Wheeler has told Mr Hurd: "We hope you will continue to resist any proposals to reverse this valuable reform."

"When it was introduced, this measure reduced the prison population by about 2,000, from 44,433 on June 30 1984 to 42,448 on July 31 1984. Without this measure, therefore, the prison population today would be 2,000 higher."

A remarkably low recall rate of 2.6 per cent showed that many prisoners could be released under supervision after shorter periods in prison without risk to the public, Mr Wheeler says.

Stylish landing for new Beaujolais

By Robin Young

The wine trade's busiest day of the year succeeded yesterday in distributing record amounts of Beaujolais Nouveau to all parts of Britain by means as diverse as Chinese rickshaw, antique water skis, parachute and horsewoman.

The rickshaw raced the new wine to a Chinese wine bar in Kensington, central London; the mahogany water skis dating from the 1920s were employed to complete a delivery to a Berkshire country club; three parachutists descended on Bournemouth clutching two bottles apiece; and the horsewoman galloped into a Lake District hotel dining room with the wine, just in time for lunch.

At Festival Pier, Oldham, the wine merchants, had moored a vessel which, they claimed, had laid a cross-Channel pipeline for Beaujolais and was pumping the wine ashore direct from France.

A Roberts & Cooper special delivery to Mrs Margaret Thatcher at 10 Downing Street went by more conventional means.

Sailly, after all the effort, consumer reaction was not very enthusiastic. The 1986 vintage is no match for its excellent predecessor, and many found the wines thin.



Miss Niki Zan, aged 23, from Shepherd's Bush, toasting rickshaw driver Mr Charles Duesbery while delivering Beaujolais to a wine bar yesterday (Photograph: Chris Harris).

BBC aims to raise £5m from appeal

The BBC hopes to raise more than £5 million from this year's Children in Need Appeal, which includes a series of television and radio programmes today.

Over the past six years the annual appeal has collected more than £11 million to improve the quality of life for children who are sick, handicapped, deprived, abused or neglected.

Mr Terry Wogan, the television personality, and his fellow fund-raisers are determined to break last year's record sum of £4.5 million, which was given to more than 4,500 different causes. It provided equipment, play facilities and holidays for underprivileged children.

"It should not be hard to beat last year's record with the line-up that we have in store for viewers today," said Mr Wogan, who will co-host a star-studded, seven-hour programme, which is the culmination of a week of fund-raising activities throughout the country.

Highlights of this year's events include an interview with Princess Anne and a tap-dancing record-breaking attempt by Roy Castle.

"We're out to amuse, inform and entertain, but ultimately we want to raise money for those children in this country who are so desperately in need of it. Let's make another fairy story come true this year," Mr Wogan said.

At Victoria station, 30 London firemen will be converging on commuters this morning.

They will be dressed in full firefighting gear, brigade uniforms and fancy dress, and hope to persuade travellers to part with £10,000 in cash.

Sub-Officer Ron Kendall, from Plumstead fire station, said: "I hope that everyone who sees us at Victoria today will dig deep in their pockets and help push our total into five figures."

Choirs throughout England will also be raising their voices to raise cash for Children in Need. The BBC's high-flying Bolsterstone Male Voice Choir will be jetting around the country to sing with eight other leading choirs at airports in Lancashire, Belfast, Glasgow, Gateshead, Birmingham, Tredgar, Luton and Weybridge.

The Newcastle upon Tyne Polytechnic will be decorating a Tyneside Metro "tube" train for a Twenties-style party to commemorate the launch of the first Children in Need appeal on BBC radio in 1927.

And 15,000 members of the National Association of Round Tables of Great Britain and Ireland will today participate in a wide variety of fund-raising events, including motorway service station collections and charity auctions.

Overdose a mistake, GP says

A doctor who allegedly injected a fatal overdose of drugs into a terminal cancer patient should have been able to see clearly the amount he was injecting, Leeds Crown Court was told yesterday.

Mr Geoffrey Rivlin, QC, for the prosecution, said the strength of phenobarbitone ampoules administered by Dr John Carr was marked on their box in "quite large numerals plain for all to see".

Dr Carr, aged 59, from Branch Road, Lower Wortley, Leeds, denies the attempted murder of Mr Ronald Mawson, a terminal lung cancer patient, in August last year.

Mr Mawson, a retired Leeds engineer, died two days after the injection.

Dr Carr said the 1,000mg dose was injected by mistake instead of 150mg. The intended dosage would have helped Mr Mawson to sleep better.

Other barbiturate sleeping drugs were found in the doctor's car which would have been suitable, Mr Rivlin said.

Mr Rivlin asked if Dr Carr told Mr Mawson's wife that he would not want any breakfast because "he is not going to wake up".

Dr Carr replied: "I said something to the effect that it was no good giving him breakfast while he was in this condition". The hearing continues today.

Cemetery ban on slate lifted

A ban on the use of Welsh slate for headstones at a cemetery in North Wales was lifted yesterday by Aberconwy Borough Council.

Only granite from India or South Africa has been permitted for headstones at Llandudno's new public cemetery at Llanrhos, although there are quarries 30 miles away.

The ban had been imposed because of an agreement with Mostyn Estates, the previous owners of the land, to ensure conformity. Mr John Davies, the council chief executive, said that the company now had no objection to grey slate being used.

Film check on school cyclists

A school at Abingdon in Oxfordshire has employed a college student to film pupils who ride cycles to and from school, in a bid to cut down on recklessness.

More than 500 pupils of Larkmead comprehensive use cycles for their journey and motorists have complained about behaviour on the road.

Marsh safe

The 935-acre Frampton Marshes site near Boston, Lincolnshire, has been bought for £375,000 by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds.



"There comes a time when silence isn't golden."

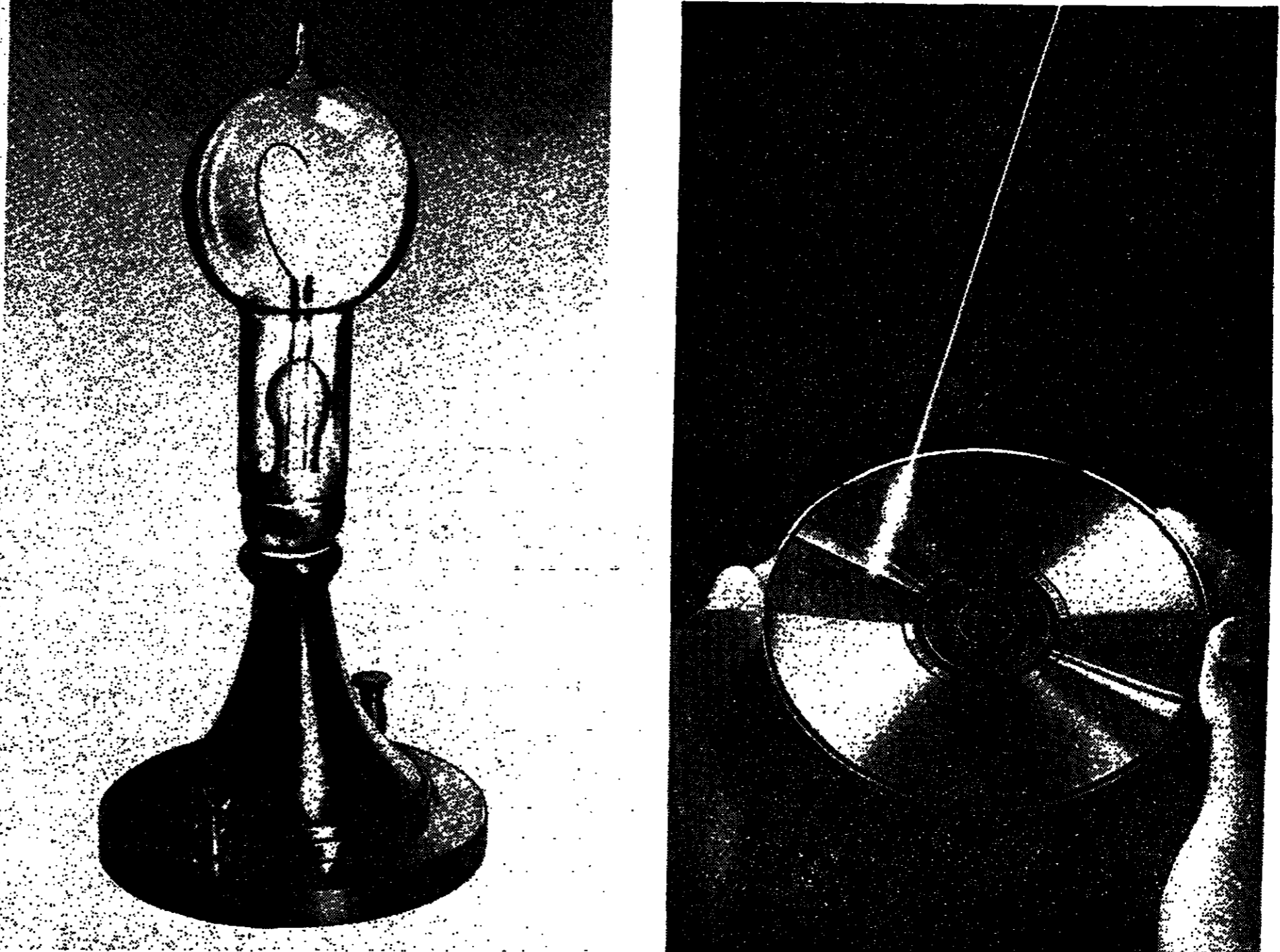
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Security zone attack

Car bomb kills Unifil men at checkpoint in south Lebanon

Tel Aviv (Reuters) — A car bomb exploded at a United Nations peacekeeping post in southern Lebanon yesterday, killing three Fijian soldiers and two Lebanese civilians.

Two other Fijian soldiers and three civilians were wounded in the attack on a vehicle at the checkpoint six miles south of the Lebanese port of Tyre, opposite a position manned by the pro-Israeli "South Lebanon Army" (SLA) militia.

Mr Timor Goksel, a UN spokesman, said it was unclear if the car had a driver because it was blown to bits.

The last suicide car bomb attack in southern Lebanon was carried out by a woman on July 17 in Jezzine, a town held by the SLA. Then, five men were wounded.

At least 20 suicide attacks have been carried out against Israeli and SLA posts, remaining after Israel withdrew the bulk of its troops from Lebanon in 1985.

The operations, which are mostly the work of Syrian-backed groups, had fallen off in recent months.

A Frenchman was the last UN soldier killed in Lebanon. He died of wounds from a bomb explosion on September 13.

Mr Goksel said 135 troops had died in action since the creation of the UN Interim Force in Lebanon (Unifil) in 1978.

He said yesterday's explosion took place just a few yards from an Israeli-declared border "buffer zone" patrolled by Israeli and SLA militia.

Security sources in the area said it was not known whether the explosion was aimed at the SLA or Unifil.

Recent guerrilla attacks on



A woman, holding aloft a pitcher of water and a plastic bottle of cooking oil, during a protest against shortages of electricity, water and fuel and the spectacular collapse of the Lebanese pound. The demonstration disrupted Beirut yesterday.

Unifil troops have heightened concern over the ability of the nine-nation force to maintain order.

The UN set up the peace-keeping force to oversee the withdrawal of those Israeli troops who invaded Lebanon

in 1978, and to arrange for the Lebanese Government to extend its authority to the Israeli border.

Israel invaded again in 1982, but withdrew the bulk of its troops in June 1985 and set up the security zone.

Britain and Syria clash in UN terrorism debate

From Zoriana Pysariwsky, New York

For the first time since the rupture of relations over the Heathrow airport bomb attempt, Britain and Syria clashed sharply at the United Nations over the issue of terrorism and Damascus's involvement in the incident as the General Assembly engaged in a debate on the US retaliatory strikes against Libya.

Responding to remarks by Mr Abdel Moumen al-Atassi, the Syrian representative, that Britain's aid for the United States in the attack on Libya in April left it with bloodstained hands, Sir John Thomson, the British delegate, renewed the charge of Syrian complicity in the Heathrow incident.

There was conclusive evidence of Syrian officials' involvement and nothing would alter that fact, Sir John said.

Mr al-Atassi said he defied the British representative to produce proof of his allegations.

He said that Syria condemned and rejected terrorism because it was itself a target of terrorists, but there was a fine, though clear-cut, line between liberation actions and terrorism.

Israelis say 'terror boat' destroyed in air raid

Jerusalem (Reuters) — Israeli helicopters destroyed a boat used by Palestinian guerrillas in the port of Sidon yesterday during the third air raid around the southern Lebanese town in five days, an Israeli Army statement said.

Reports from Lebanon described the vessel as a fisherman's boat and said that one person was injured. The Israeli statement described it as a "terrorist boat" but gave no other details.

It said that all Israeli helicopters returned safely to base and a spokesman dismissed earlier Lebanese radio reports that an aircraft had been shot down by ground fire.

It was the sixteenth Israeli air raid on Lebanon this year in a policy which the Prime Minister, Mr Yitzhak Shamir, says is aimed at preventing Palestinian guerrillas from re-establishing bases in the south, within striking distance of Israel's border.

On Sunday Israeli jets hit what an Army spokesman described as a naval base of the Fatah movement of the chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization, Mr Yasser Arafat, near the Ain al-Hilweh refugee camp, which is just south of Sidon.

The raid followed the capture of boats carrying weapons and three Palestinian guerrillas off the southern Lebanese coast earlier that day.

On Monday Israeli helicopters pounded another outpost near the Ain al-Hilweh camp belonging to the Syrian-based Popular Struggle Front.

Helicopters safe: All the Israeli helicopters which took part in the raid on the Palestinian base near Sidon returned safely, according to an Israeli military spokesman (Ian Murray writes).

The spokesman denied firmly that any Israeli aircraft had been lost during the raid. Shamir on Iraq, page 11

WORLD SUMMARY

Churches take on aid to families

Johannesburg (Reuters) — The South African Council of Churches (SACC) yesterday said it was taking over assistance to families of political detainees formerly provided by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) which has been expelled from South Africa.

Mr Beyers Naude, the SACC general secretary, said the council would pay fares for families to visit the estimated 20,000 detainees and would distribute payments to compensate for food parcels the ICRC had been giving to families.

Mr Naude said the annual cost of the programme would be approximately R500,000 (£158,000) and the council was appealing to churches inside and outside the country for donations.

South Africa expelled the ICRC last month in retaliation for its delegation being barred from a meeting of the organization in Geneva.

Karmal departs

Johannesburg (Reuters) — The Afghan President, Mr Babrak Karmal, replaced as Communist Party leader last May, was relieved of all government and ruling party offices yesterday, nearly seven years after he came to power.

Kabul Radio said Mr Karmal was relieved of his offices at his own request at a meeting of the Revolutionary Council, Kabul.

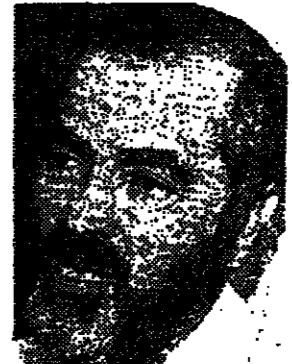
Treason charge

Lisbon — Portugal is to bring charges of treason against the leader of the Azores Liberation Front, Dr José de Almeida, for recent statements claiming independence for the islands, both in the Azores, and at a press conference in Lisbon on Wednesday (Martha de la Cal writes).

It found guilty, Dr de Almeida would be liable to 15 to 20 years in prison.

Kahane in US row

Kansas City (Reuters) — The Israeli militant anti-Arab politician, Rabbi Meir Kahane, was free on bail yesterday after being arrested on disorderly conduct charges in the Kansas City suburb of Overland Park.



Rabbi Kahane and two other men, one described as an Arab and the other as a Jew, were charged after interruptions to his speech police said. There were no injuries.

Rabbi Kahane, who founded the militant Jewish Defence League (JDL) in the United States, was suggesting that all the Arabs should leave Israel, or they should not have voting rights.

Poaching protest

Belgrade (Reuters) — Yugoslavia has protested against Italian poaching in its territorial waters after a Yugoslav patrol shot dead an Italian fisherman on Wednesday, alleging repeated violations of Yugoslav waters by Italian fishermen.

Offer spurned

Madrid — The Spanish Government believes there is no acceptable change in the offer to negotiate on self-government and sovereignty made by a spokesman of Eta's military wing on French television on Wednesday night (Richard Wigg writes).

Sweden off blacklist

Stockholm (Reuters) — Sweden has been taken off a US blacklist of countries which Washington fears might allow advanced Western technology to fall into Soviet hands, a Swedish newspaper said yesterday.

The science weekly *Ny Teknik* quoted senior US defence officials as saying Sweden had been removed from the list since it tightened rules on exporting technology this summer. The move means Swedish firms would find it easier to import advanced technology from the United States. The newspaper said about 15 countries were still on the US blacklist.

Corruption allegation

Image of Moro the martyr tarnished

From Peter Nichols, Rome

The nearest Italians had to a political martyr was Signor Aldo Moro, the Christian Democrat leader kidnapped and murdered by terrorists in 1978. It is an ironic coincidence that the re-emergence of similar tactics in France is accompanied here by attacks on the Moro image of integrity.

Signor Moro was the main story in the world's newspapers for many of the 55 days in which he was in the hands of his captors.

His brutal murder made him at the time the most illustrious victim of Europe's urban guerrillas of the far left. Now he is accused posthumously of being a party to corruption and of exporting illegally gained capital for safekeeping in Switzerland because of fears of a coup d'état.

The allegations are being made in the course of a Turin trial of people accused of involvement in the huge oil scandal of the 1970s which cost the state the equivalent of £150 million in lost revenues.

Some of the proceeds are said to have gone to finance political parties. So far, evidence is totally lacking that Signor Moro's group within the Christian Democrat Party drew on these illicit funds.

Two sets of allegations have been presented in court about funds said to have been made available to the Moro group, Signor Sereno Freato, one of the accused who was a close associate of Signor Moro, said that a sum to the equivalent of £50,000 was deposited in a Swiss bank to make provision for "someone who might have to flee the country".

The money came, according to Signor Freato, from well-wishers who had financed Signor Moro's election campaign. Legislation followed on the export of capital and Signor Moro himself said that the cash should be brought back into Italy by a leading figure in the oil industry, Signor Bruno Musselli, who is one of the principals accused in the oil scandal.

He hotly denies Signor Freato's version and told the court: "I exclude categorically that such a man as Aldo Moro would have accepted to open an account in Switzerland."

The most surprising aspect of all is that Signor Moro's widow has gone to extreme lengths, including the risk of being charged with false testimony, to back the Freato version.

At one point in the proceedings on Wednesday, the judge pointed out that the very existence of the Swiss account had yet to be proven and, he told Signora Moro, "you understand that by choosing to side with Freato, you are indirectly risking to compromise the memory of that illustrious politician who was your husband."

More than siding with the man whose thesis is so damaging for Signor Moro, the widow's intercepted telephone calls to the Freato family indicate that she was willing to change her account of events if this would help Signor Freato.

The question of whether the Moro memory is smeared with the oil scandal has a political importance far beyond the outcome of this trial.

Signor Moro was the conscience of the Christian Democrat Party especially after his death. He was an ineffectual Prime Minister but he coaxed a reluctant party into taking two historic steps: its alliance with the socialists in the 1960s and the agreement with the communists in the 1970s.



Aldo Moro: claimed to have had a Swiss bank account.

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سكنا عن الراجح

Iran arms crisis: • Ayatollah gloats • Shamir stonewalls • President struggles

US overtures shunned as Khomeini rejoices at Reagan's 'scandal'

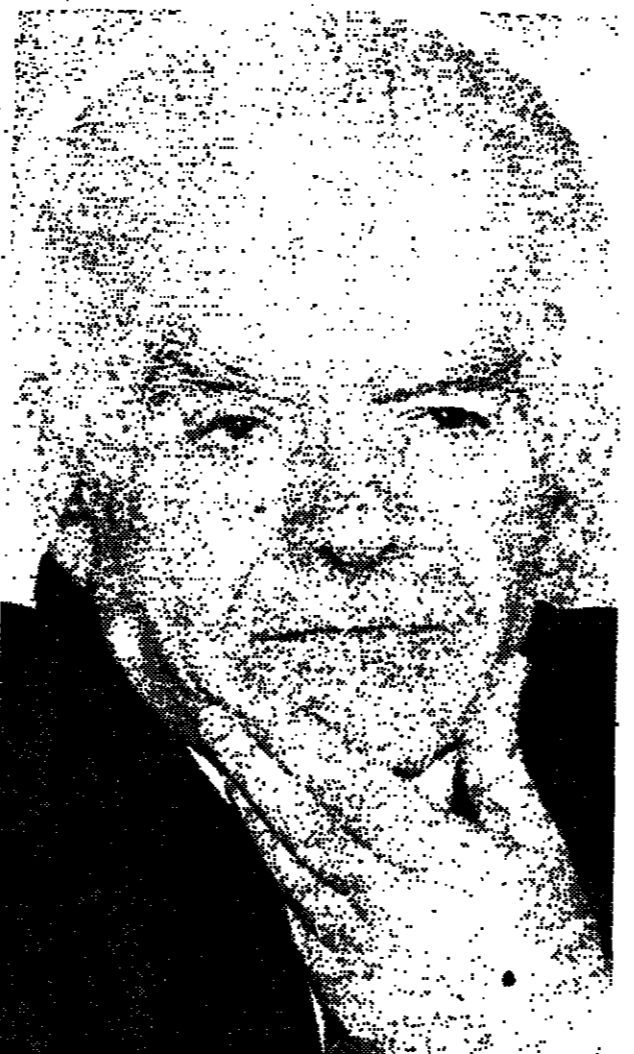
Tehran (Reuters) - Iran's spiritual leader, Ayatollah Khomeini, yesterday rejected American efforts to establish ties with Tehran.



Ayatollah Khomeini: American overtures are rejected.

Speaking on the affair for the first time, he told a gathering at a mosque beside his north Tehran home: "One thing I congratulate everyone on is the great explosion which has occurred in Washington's Black House and the important scandal which has gripped leaders of America."

nation, wanting to establish relations and making apologies... The Ayatollah spoke only hours after a Washington news conference in which President Reagan assumed sole responsibility for the secret overtures...



Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Israeli Prime Minister, weighing a reply at a lunch with the foreign press in Jerusalem.

Shamir fends off pointed questions

From Ian Murray, Jerusalem

Israel is doing all it can to help the Jews in Iran who are suffering continuing persecution, Mr Yitzhak Shamir said here yesterday.

Refinery shut down by Iraqi air raid

Bahrain (Reuters) - One of Iran's two largest active refineries, a plant at Esfahan, was shut down a week ago, apparently because of an Iraqi air raid, oil sources in the Gulf said yesterday.

In his press conference on Wednesday evening President Reagan illustrated the nature of his dilemma over the Iranian arms deal.

He cannot, therefore, close the controversy on his actions either by confessing his blunder or by offering a better explanation without admitting that he had been previously misleading.

In every tight corner up till now he has always managed to win the confidence of the American people. Even his critics have acknowledged ruefully that he seems to possess a magic gift which has enabled him to be untouched by any failure.

Ever since his election six years ago until now Mr Reagan has been treated with unusual respect by the press.

Reagan has look of a hunted man

This was partly because it was wary of seeming too tough towards such an outstandingly popular leader and partly, I believe, because it became nervous of its own power.

COMMENTARY



Geoffrey Smith

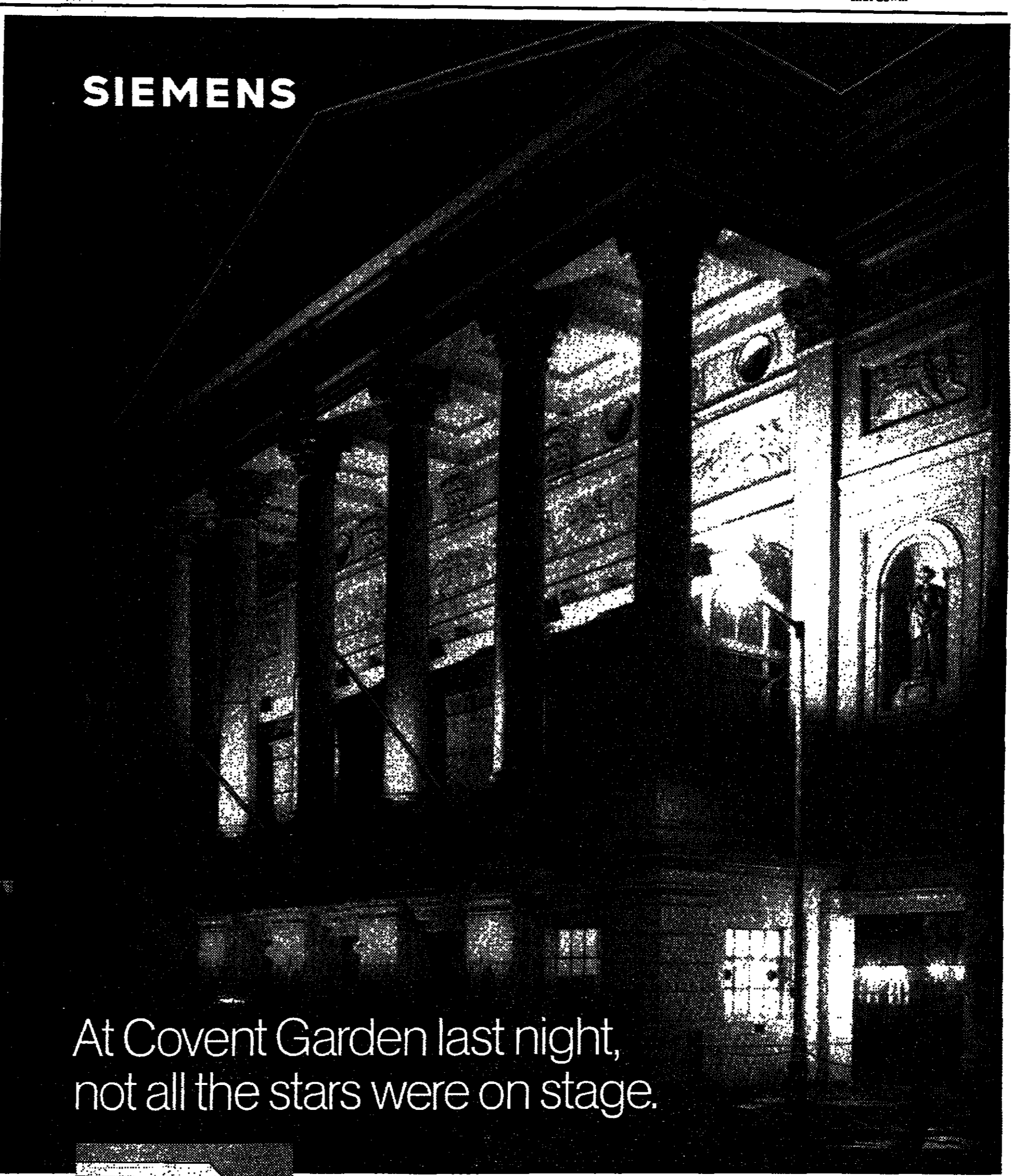
momentum of the controversy will be kept up in the interval before the new Congress assembles in January.

Disclosures from State Department

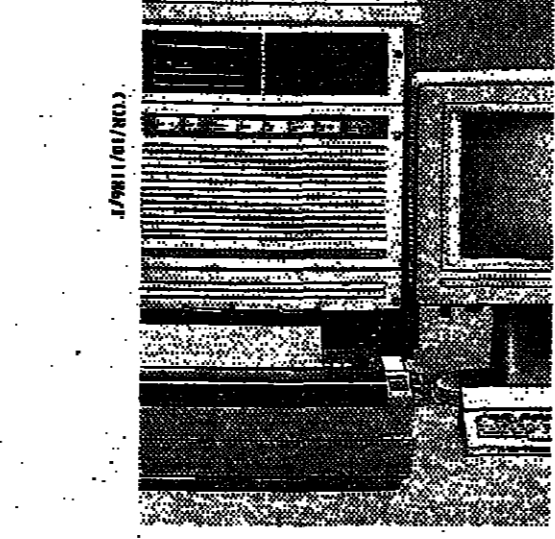
deliberately excluded from the Iranian operation. They have probably also been coming from dissidents within the National Security Council.

Basle wakes up to yet another gas leak

For many people in Basle there was a nightmarish quality about being woken in the middle of the night again by police cars with loudspeakers telling them to close all windows.



At Covent Garden last night, not all the stars were on stage.



The heart of the 'SITRALUX' system.

Technology's contribution to art is clearly demonstrated by the new automated stage lighting control system from Siemens, at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden.

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New private enterprise law is no revolution for Russia's 'chastniks'

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

Soviet citizens were yesterday trying to assess the implications of the controversial new law sanctioning 29 forms of individual or family enterprise, hailed by some Western commentators as a "minor revolution", but seen by many Russians as a legalization of the status quo.

A number of people interviewed by *The Times* expressed scepticism that the law on individual labour would bring any sweeping changes to the economy when it comes into effect in May.

Others, relying more on hope than conviction, spoke of a possible improvement in the country's woefully inadequate consumer services.

All believed that the changes would probably be most keenly felt in the Baltic republics of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania where economic experiments have traditionally been ahead of the norm in the rest of the country.

"If the law had made things like they are in Hungary, then the changes would have been greater and we would have faced the danger of crowds leaving the state sector to try earning more roubles working privately," said Gennady, a Muscovite, aged 36. "As it is,

no one can hire another worker, so nothing of any great size can emerge."

After the initial excitement provoked by the passing of the law in the Supreme Soviet, many Russians have adopted a more questioning approach, emphasizing the very strict limitations imposed on any private business.

"The only families who can work together are those who live under one roof, and then only after doing a day's work in the state sector," Gennady said. The case of Olga, aged 50, a Soviet dressmaker who has been operating for years from her small flat in a south Moscow suburb is typical of the hundreds of thousands of *chastniks*, private workers who are already plugging the yawning gaps left by the inefficient communist economic system.

Under the new law Olga (whose telephone number is passed from hand to hand by members of Moscow's smart set) will continue to operate as she does now, in her spare time — the main difference is that she will have to pay a new tax on her private earnings.

The other difference in her thriving little business — whose up-to-date designs are copied mainly from European magazines — is that she will

have to go to the local Soviet authorities before May 1 to seek a permit.

The need for Olga and other members of the vast army of *chastniks* is that although they charge higher prices than their state equivalents, they produce better work, more quickly and are much more flexible in accommodating the demands of individuals.

"I can see nothing wrong with going to a private dressmaker. It never really crossed my mind to do otherwise, just as I used to send my son to private kindergarten. It cost more money, but he was looked after much better," one of Olga's clients said.

A Soviet official said that by legalizing the existing private sector (with the exception of black marketers), it was hoped to entice more people to join it.

Soviet intellectuals noted that the new law fell far short of the New Economic Policy introduced by Lenin in 1921.

The current vogue for NEP among influential Soviet economists has led diplomats to speculate that the new law may only represent a cautious first step which Mr Mikhail Gorbachev intends to develop later.

Leading article, page 21



Police carrying away a demonstrator who tried to block the entrance to a Nato site at Hasselbach, West Germany, where cruise missiles are to be based. The police, who had arrived yesterday to keep watch on the authorized protest shortly before it was due to begin, found that about 100 anti-nuclear demonstrators were already

blocking the four gates of the base, south of Koblenz. Organizers said that the demonstrators arrived in the middle of the night, well before they had been officially expected. There were no arrests, police said. The demonstrators plan to stay two days outside the base, where 96 cruise missiles are due to be deployed by the end of next year.

German terrorist tried again for Schleyer murder

From John England, Bonn

A former Baader-Meinhof gang terrorist, who is accused of involvement in the kidnapping and murder of a leading West German industrialist in 1977, went on trial in a heavily guarded Düsseldorf court yesterday charged with the crimes for the second time.

Rolf Klemens Wagner, aged 42, was sentenced by the same court in March 1985 to two life terms for taking part in the abduction of Dr Hanns-Martin Schleyer, president of the West German Employers' Federation, in September 1977 and his "execution" six weeks later.

The Federal High Court quashed the verdict and sentences and ordered a retrial because the lower court had allowed a conversation between Wagner and a prison governor to be secretly tape-recorded.

Wagner is alleged to have been the terrorist who telephoned Dr Schleyer's family with ransom demands and the lower court wanted to compare his voice with tapes of the kidnappers' contact man made nine years ago.

The federal court ruled that the jail recording was inadmissible, and the lower court must now decide if the rest of the evidence against Wagner is sufficient to convict him again.

Wagner is already serving a life sentence in a Swiss jail for the killing of a woman passenger during a bank raid in Zurich.

Dr Schleyer was kidnapped in Cologne in an ambush in which his driver and three bodyguards were shot dead. He was found dead in the boot of a car in Mulhouse, near the French-German border, six weeks later after West Germany's crack GSG9 anti-terrorist unit had freed the passengers and crew of a hijacked Lufthansa airliner at Mogadishu airport in Somalia.

That action was followed by the suicides in jail of the old Baader-Meinhof gang ring-leaders, Andrea Baader, Gudrun Ensslin and Jan-Carl Raspe, which sealed Dr Schleyer's fate. He was killed by several shots in the head.

Wagner was excluded from the court yesterday after creating a disturbance.

Recounting drive: The Federal Criminal Bureau in Wiesbaden said yesterday that the Red Army Faction, successors to the Baader-Meinhof gang, had increased its efforts to recruit new sympathizers to its cause to help organize cars and hideaway flats. "It appears that the terrorists are having problems in finding replacements for drop-outs," a spokesman said.

Cabinda oilfields targeted by Unita

By Nicholas Beeston

Reports of increased guerrilla activity in Angola's oil-rich Cabinda enclave may herald a new offensive by anti-government Unita forces with grave consequences to the country and the region, according to Western diplomats and Angolan officials.

Latest reports from Lusanda say that guerrillas mounted an attack two weeks ago against the heavily defended airport at Cabinda, the most recent in a string of ground assaults, which could constitute a switch in strategy by Unita's leader, Dr Jonas Savimbi.

The offshore oilfields at Cabinda, operated by the US company, Chevron, produce two-thirds of Angola's oil exports, with the commodity providing 93 per cent of the country's foreign currency earnings last year and effectively bankrolling its 11-year war against Unita.

Officials of the Marxist-led Government in Lusanda suggest that Unita's latest attempt to sabotage the Cabinda operation would not be possible unless the rebels were allowed to use bases in neighbouring Zaire.

Publicly Lusanda has refrained from accusing Zaire of aiding Unita, but privately Angolan officials suspect the country is working with the US and South Africa by turning a blind eye to Unita operations launched from its territory.

A Unita spokesman in London denied that his movement received any assistance from Kinshasa and said that the latest offensive in the north was the result of "increased activities" and an "extended campaign".

"We do not reveal where we attack from," he said. "We have to hit the Government where it hurts most, and that means the oil installations."

In the past, South African commandos and Unita forces have launched hit-and-run sabotage operations in Cabinda, but never a concerted military campaign.

Ironically, the campaign against the Chevron oilfields coincides with the covert CIA anti-communist operation, approved by President Reagan, to equip Unita with sophisticated weapons.

Unita has so far refused to comment on reports from neighbouring Zambia that the arms have been shipped via Zaire, but admits that it has "received everything that was promised" by Washington.

Experts believe the new arms supplies and the reports of a new offensive in the north could shift the strategic balance in Unita's favour and increase the pressure on the Soviet-backed Government in Lusanda to extend its war effort or contemplate a negotiated settlement.



Dr Jonas Savimbi: switch in Unita's strategy under way?

Guerrillas seek talks on British captive

Lisbon (Reuters) — Right-wing Mozambican rebels are demanding direct negotiations with the British Government for the release of Mr Ian Robertson, a captured British agricultural engineer.

Mr Paulo Oliveira, spokesman in Lisbon for the Mozambican National Resistance, said that the MNR leader, Mr Afonso Dhlakama, had ordered that conditions for his release be discussed directly with the British Foreign Office instead of the International Red Cross. The ICRC was handling the cases of other foreigners captured during an attack on Uloaque on the weekend of November 8/10. Three West Germans and a Portuguese were also seized.

Egyptian tomb from 2000 BC

Cairo (Reuters) — Egyptian archaeologists have uncovered the tomb of a pharaonic prince at Saqqara, the desert site of the prototype step pyramid.

The tomb, dating back to 2400 BC, is well preserved and hieroglyphics show that it belonged to Eri, a sixth dynasty prince.

Wall jump

Berlin (Reuters) — A 33-year-old East German man escaped over the Berlin Wall to the West during Wednesday night, successfully ducking a hail of bullets from communist guards but breaking his leg in the 14ft jump to the western side.

River open

Ayamonte, Spain (Reuters) — Fishermen in 50 small boats lifted a three-day blockade of a river crossing between Spain and Portugal yesterday after officials agreed to study demands for a bilateral agreement in the frontier zone.

2,000 held

Seoul (AP) — Government reports submitted this week to the South Korean National Assembly show that 2,011 students are being held in connection with recent anti-government demonstrations.

Snake post

Sydney (Reuters) — Two West German tourists have been sentenced to six months in jail for attempting to post 135 live snakes and lizards out of Australia.

Pie-eyed

Nairobi (AFP) — Police have arrested a Kenyan man who drove his car at high speed for a mile along railway tracks in central Nairobi while drunk. He said he had eaten a samosa, a kind of small Indian pie, which disagreed with him.

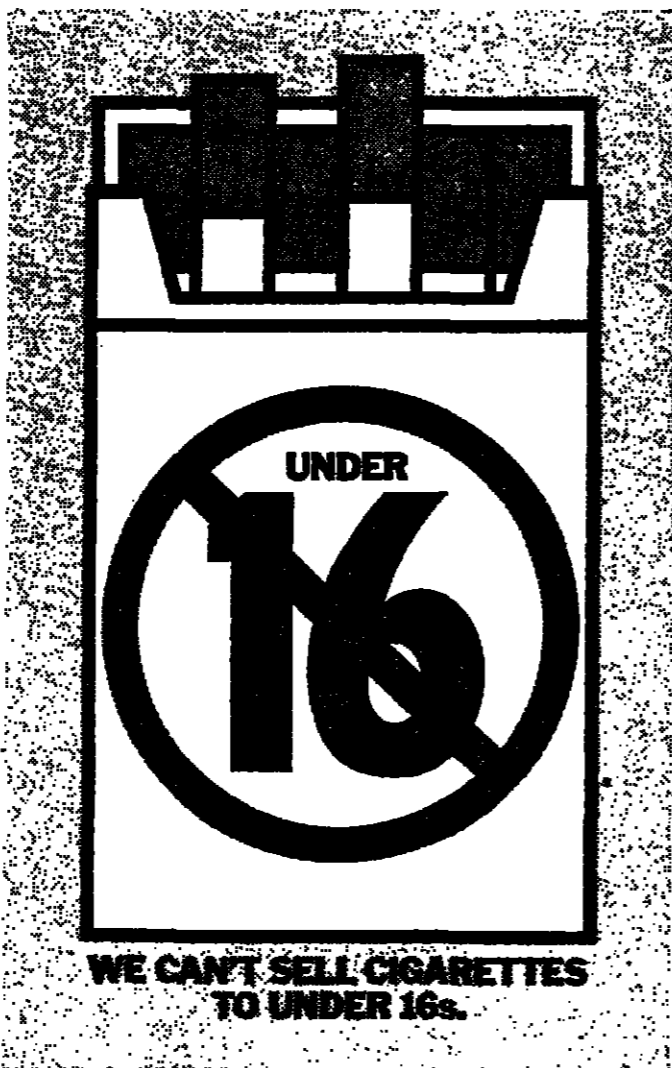
Double charge

Bulawayo (Reuters) — Private taxi owners in Bulawayo, infuriated by "huge and overweight" passengers, have started charging them double, because each fat passenger takes up the space of two people and costs them business.

DAVID ROBERTS RA THE HOLY LAND PRINTS IN ORIGINAL COLOUR The Connoisseurs Gallery 14-15 Holborn Arcade LONDON SW1X 8JY TELEPHONE 01-263 6481

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Thatcher statement to Commons under scrutiny

Court closes its doors to hear some of Sir Robert's answers

Mrs Thatcher's statement to the Commons in 1981 about Sir Roger Hollis, former Director-General of MI5, had not been a comprehensive account of the investigation into claims that he was a Soviet double-agent, Sir Robert Armstrong, the Cabinet Secretary, agreed here yesterday.

But it had been as full as the limits of an oral statement allowed and he believed it accurate, Sir Robert told the Peter Wright book hearing in the New South Wales Supreme Court.

Sir Robert, in his third day in the witness box, was being cross-examined by Mr Malcolm Turnbull, former journalist, who asked: "Why is it not possible to be comprehensive in the House of Commons?"

Mr Justice Powell, who is hearing the Government's application for an injunction to suppress Mr Wright's book, described the cross-examination as trying to show that Mrs Thatcher's was "a deliberately misleading statement in an attempt to put out the fire and quieten the people."

The court went into closed session for more than an hour yesterday after Sir Robert declined to answer in open court suggestions that Lord Victor Rothschild, a senior adviser to Conservative governments, had procured publication of Mr Chapman Pincher's book, *Their Trade is Treachery*.

From Stephen Taylor, Sydney
The Cabinet Secretary also refused to make any statement that might have had the effect of confirming the existence of MI6, Britain's external counter-espionage service. Counsel for the Government explained that no government official had ever done so before, although it was later pointed out that Sir Robert had inadvertently done just that during Wednesday's hearing.

Mr Justice Powell agreed to hear an amendment of the Government's pleadings today and extended a deadline

for production of secret documents to Monday.
Mr Turnbull had earlier described Mr Pincher as a journalist of known right-wing views and suggested that the Government had chosen him as being suitable to make public the investigation of Sir Roger Hollis which was discussed in *Their Trade is Treachery*.

Mr Turnbull suggested to Sir Robert that Lord Rothschild, former head of a Tory think-tank, was also a trusted adviser on intelligence matters. Sir Robert replied that he thought that "an over-statement".

Mr Turnbull: Did Victor Rothschild discuss *Their Trade is Treachery* with you before publication?
Sir Robert No.
Mr Turnbull: Have you

received any reports from the security services concerning Victor Rothschild's role concerning *Their Trade is Treachery*?
Sir Robert: I would not wish to answer that in open court.

Mr Turnbull: Have you learned from other than the security services that Victor Rothschild procured the publication of *Their Trade is Treachery*?
When Sir Robert repeated that he did not wish to answer this in open court, Mr Justice

Powell cleared the public gallery.
Earlier, Sir Robert confirmed that, even after the furore over the Hollis allegations in *Their Trade is Treachery*, senior civil servants and politicians had continued to associate with Mr Pincher.

Mr Turnbull: One of his better contacts in the Government is Sir Michael Havers (the Attorney-General), isn't it?
Sir Robert: I have no information for that. I don't know if they have close relations.

Mr Turnbull: Another of his better contacts is Sir Arthur Franks? (former head of MI6).
Sir Robert: I believe they meet from time to time.

Mr Turnbull asked whether Sir Robert knew that on New Year's Day, 1983, Sir Michael

Havers had been shooting with Mr Pincher and had provided him with information which had formed the basis of a sequel to *Their Trade is Treachery*.
Sir Robert said he knew nothing of that. When the sequel had appeared it was agreed that it had contained little new material.

Sir Robert was reluctant to use the designation of MI6. When a reference was made to Mr Arthur Martin, a former MI5 officer, moving to MI6, Sir Robert would say only that Mr Martin had gone "to another place".

Mr Theo Simos, QC, appearing for the British Government, said Sir Robert was being put in the position of being the first official to confirm the organization's existence.
Mr Turnbull remarked: "It is a neat hypocrisy that Britain will admit the existence of one of its own agencies which spies on its own people (MI5), but not to that which spies on other people."

The need for secrecy apparently baffled Mr Justice Powell, who said he had read books about British intelligence and had been under the impression that the Australian security services, with an internal and an external arm, had been based on "the role model in the Mother Country".

Leading article, page 21



Miss Mercouri with a model of the site for a new £13 million museum to house the treasures of the Acropolis.

Museum planned for Elgin marbles

From A Correspondent Athens

Miss Melina Mercouri, Greece's Minister of Culture, yesterday announced an international competition to design a new archaeological museum at the base of the Acropolis, where she is "certain" the Elgin Marbles will be displayed one day.

The former actress, who has fought for the return of the Parthenon relics from the British Museum for the past five years, said the competition was to plan a £13 million museum to be built by 1996.

Artefacts from the fifth-century BC Parthenon and other Acropolis monuments, including four of the caryatid maidens on the Erechtheum, are now housed in a crowded basement museum on the south-east corner of the hill. Hundreds of other relics are in storage because of a lack of display space.

Miss Mercouri said the new museum "will assist our crusade to bring the Parthenon marbles home. Everyone will see that we have a fitting home for them. I am certain the marbles from the Parthenon will come back and be sheltered there."

A year ago Britain rejected an appeal by Athens to return more than a dozen marble figures and a section of the Parthenon frieze removed in the early 1800s by Thomas Bruce, the seventh Earl of Elgin and once British Ambassador to Ottoman Turkey.

Workers in dispute set fire to gold mine

From Michael Hornsby Johannesburg

Firemen were last night battling to control a gold mine fire 1 1/2 miles underground which appears to have been deliberately started by black miners in dispute with the owner, Gold Fields, over a pay settlement.

It was detected in the Kloof mine last Monday and a second blaze broke out later. "The cause of the first fire, which was extinguished, was definitely sabotage and there is a strong possibility that the second was also started deliberately," Mr Keith Spencer, the mine manager, said.

The affected area has had to be sealed off before flooding it, a process which could take a week. About 20 per cent of the mine, which normally produces gold worth about R2 million (£625,000) a day, is out of production.

If arson is proved, it would be one of the few known cases of sabotage being used by miners as a weapon in a dispute with mine management.

© CANBERRA: Australia will stop issuing visitor and temporary entry visas within South Africa from today, the Immigration Minister, Mr Chris Hurford, said (Reuter reports).

Intending visitors will have to apply for visas outside the country although Australian offices in South Africa will continue to handle applications for permanent residence.

Man in the news

This judge is more than meets the eye

Sydney - His Honour Mr Justice Philip Ernest Powell, who will be required to pass judgment on the British Government's application to suppress the Wright manuscript, has been heard to refer to himself during the proceedings as "just an old colonial" (Stephen Taylor writes).

He is clearly more than that, however. Aged 56, he was called to the Bar only a year after being admitted to the Supreme Court of New South Wales as a solicitor and has been a judge since he was 47. A former intelligence officer, he served with the Australian Army Intelligence Corps.

Mr Justice Powell's avuncular manner towards counsel for the British Government and Mr Wright is marked by his commentaries on the duel that is going on.

After one sharp-witted exchange he remarked: "That's 15-11" while the sallies of Mr Malcolm Turnbull, the shrewd young solicitor appearing for Mr Wright, are occasionally mildly admonished. "That's yours for the day, Mr Turnbull."

The judge has been unvaryingly courteous towards Sir Robert Armstrong, the Cabinet Secretary, who has spent three tough days under cross-examination by Mr Turnbull.

But he has expressed dissatisfaction on the conduct of the case by the British side on a number of occasions. This week he said he was worried that Sir Robert had been put forward as the Crown's main witness when there were clearly areas, on matters of law, for



Mr Justice Powell: questioned aspects of British case example, which were outside his jurisdiction and on which he was incapable of answering questions.

Last week, discerning one more of a series of tactical adjustments by the British lawyers, he expressed anger for the only time so far in the proceedings, describing what he said was his "rising sense of frustration" at these "serpentine warrings".
From other remarks, including references to characters in the novels of John Le Carré, it is clear that Mr Justice Powell is well-read in the literature of the secret intelligence world, but his main recreation is gardening.

According to his entry in *Who's Who in Australia* he has two sons and two daughters and is a member of the Imperial Services Club.

Furore over Chess Federation poll

From Raymond Keene, Chess Correspondent, Dubai

Mr Florencio Campomanes of the Philippines and Professor Lincoln Lucena of Brazil are contesting the election for the post of president of the World Chess Federation (Fide), which will take place here next Saturday.

Broadly speaking, Mr Campomanes, the incumbent, is supported by the Third World, and Professor Lucena numbers most of Eastern Europe, the US and world chess champion, Gary Kasparov (USSR), among his supporters.

Mr Campomanes has angered many during his four-year term by what is perceived as an autocratic style of leadership, which culminated in his arbitrary termination of the first Karpov-Kasparov world championship match on February 15, 1985, just as Kasparov had won two consecutive games.

Mr Lucena has promised reforms, including a more democratic Fide structure.

Mr Campomanes' greatest coup has been the staging of the 1986 Chess Olympiad and elections in Dubai, an event from which Israel had been excluded for the first time in the history of the championship, an action which prompted Holland, Norway, Sweden, Denmark to boycott the event.

Mr Ahmed Abdullhah Abu Hussain, General Secretary of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports in the United Arab Emirates said: "Dubai and the Olympic organizing committee con-

firmed at the opening of the Olympiad that they clearly supported Mr Campomanes for re-election as president of Fide."

To confirm their gratitude they have spent around £700,000 on international air tickets to ferry in potential Campomanes supporters. Officially these tickets are for "delegations not able to finance their air tickets costs to attend the Olympiad" but a furore erupted yesterday morning when the list of recipients of this generosity was published.

It includes Spain, Greece and Italy (prominent Campomanes supporters), but excludes Bermuda and Zimbabwe, believed to be on the opposite side. Sixty-seven of the 125 of the World Federation's nations have benefited and this pattern of bias was repeated throughout the list.

Mr Hussein said: "It is Mr Campomanes' right to exploit this wonderful idea and use it in his just election campaign..."

Gary Kasparov, the world champion, has predictably hit the roof. He said: "Chess has been rocked by scandal which must now come to an end. Campomanes' autocratic style of leadership has harmed everyone. He has had four years to make his own chess world and the result is bad."

Yesterday afternoon Kasparov summoned many prominent grandmasters to the first meeting of his projected World Grandmaster League.

Why workaholics seldom get to the top.



Is he working his way to the top?
Or not on top of his work?

This is a true story.

One company, we know employed a man who worked very hard every day, long after everybody else had gone home and often at weekends as well.

His job wasn't particularly important or well paid. But everybody marvelled at how long and painstakingly he laboured.

At 9 o'clock one night, a few years before he was due to retire, he went to collect some more paper from the stationery store. On the way, he had a heart attack in the lift.

Nobody was there to tend him. They'd all gone home. So he died.

His bosses felt guilty. Had they been overworking him, they wondered.

So they gave someone else the job to do and watched carefully to see how he fared.

The new man found he could do the entire job in two days a week.

Workaholics, it seems, do not work for success or riches.

They don't work to achieve anything.

For them, work is an end in itself. If anything, they work to create more work.

True, you may say, but what has this to do with InterCity. (We assume you've spotted the logo at the bottom of this page.)

Next time you're on the motorway, look at the business folk in their cars.

What are they accomplishing?

Not a lot.

They are achieving nothing more than covering the miles to Liverpool, London, Birmingham or wherever. And they are turning it into hard work.

Look at their faces. Do they look as though they're enjoying it?

When they get to the other end, they will be tired. So they will have the comforting feeling that they have done a day's work and earned their money, before they even reach their meetings.

Now look at the people covering the same journey on InterCity.

These people are shirking.

They are reading magazines, doing crosswords, playing chess, thinking, eating meals, studying reports, formulating their strategy, snoozing, daydreaming. Heaven help us, some of them are drinking alcohol.

Most of all, they are having a nice time.

Is this any way for go-ahead executives to conduct themselves?

It certainly is.

They arrive at their meetings with fresher, clearer minds. They are probably more alert and certainly less tired. Quite simply, they're in a fitter state to do business.

What's more, they get to their meetings at up to 125 miles an hour instead of 70.

Sometimes the way to the top is to do less work.



Bangladeshi officers in the wings

Ershad treads warily to maintain army's role in civilian government

From Michael Hamlyn, Dhaka

The influence that the Bangladeshi Army has over the Government, which is now civilian, is likely to find some institutional form. If not, the ambitious young officers who have become used to running the country in the past 4 1/2 years, may well begin plotting again.

Senior political figures indicated that he is likely soon to bring forward new warrants of precedence that will return the military chiefs into the front row on public occasions. More than that, he is expected to create a national security council which will give them some official position as advisers to the President.

confrontation with its own people - in which case he would have to resign and new elections could be called. In pursuit of this kind of aim the Awami League, led by Sheikh Hasina Wazed, daughter of the assassinated founder of the country, Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, proposes to keep up its pressure on the Government both in the streets and - since martial law has now been lifted - in Parliament too.



Mourners in Manila following a truck bearing the coffins of Mr Olalia, the murdered left-wing labour leader, and his driver.

Philippine rebels reject deadline for ceasefire

From Keith Dalton, Manila

Thousands of mourners yesterday joined the funeral procession for Mr Rolando Olalia, the labour leader whose murder, blamed by supporters on military agents, has halted peace talks to end the 17-year communist insurgency.

does not normalize, especially if the Government cannot assure itself that it has control of the armed forces, it is difficult to reach an accord. Mr Ocampo said. Mr Ocampo and Mr Zamel marched behind an open truck bearing Mr Olalia's coffin.

Pope denounces state aid for birth control

Singapore (Reuter) - The Pope attacked government birth-control programmes, such as those promoted here until recently, during his five-hour stopover yesterday in this wealthy Asian island-state.

has said it is looking at incentives for women to have up to four children. About 60,000 people, sheltering under a sea of multi-coloured umbrellas, braved torrential monsoon rain and lightning to attend the Mass.

The Pope told them that parents must be able "to bear and rear their children without any type of coercion or pressure". In a reference to the Vatican's ban on all artificial birth controls, the Pope said couples should "rely on morally licit" methods of family planning.

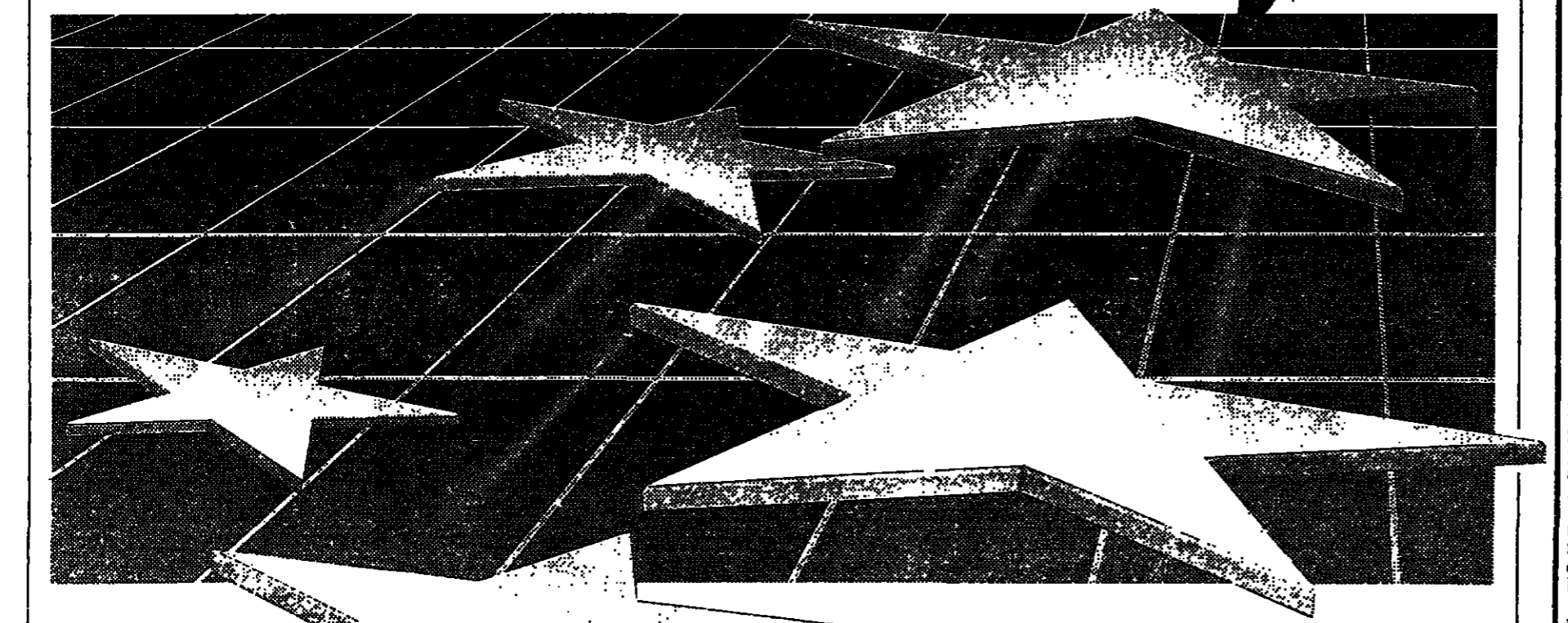
Herzog in surprise visit to Sri Lanka

Colombo (Reuter) - President Herzog of Israel met President Jayewardene of Sri Lanka yesterday during a surprise six-hour visit to Sri Lanka at the end of his tour of Asia and the Pacific.

A Sri Lankan official said they met at President Jayewardene's official residence during the Israeli President's short stopover, but he declined to give details. Officials said President Herzog arrived at 11 am and was flown by helicopter to meet President Jayewardene. President Herzog left Sri Lanka to return to Israel at 5.15 pm. The visit had not been announced and there was no government statement.

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Austrian election

Socialists ready to relinquish office

From Richard Bassett, Vienna

In his final press conference before Sunday's general election, the Austrian Chancellor, Dr Franz Vranitzky, expressed quiet confidence in his Socialist Party's ability to win a majority.

cellor and an inexperienced Dr Mock as Chancellor is not too unpleasant a thought for some Socialists. They will eagerly sit back and watch what promises to be an interesting new variation in what is dubbed by Vienna papers as the PUNCH and JUDY show of Austrian coalition politics.



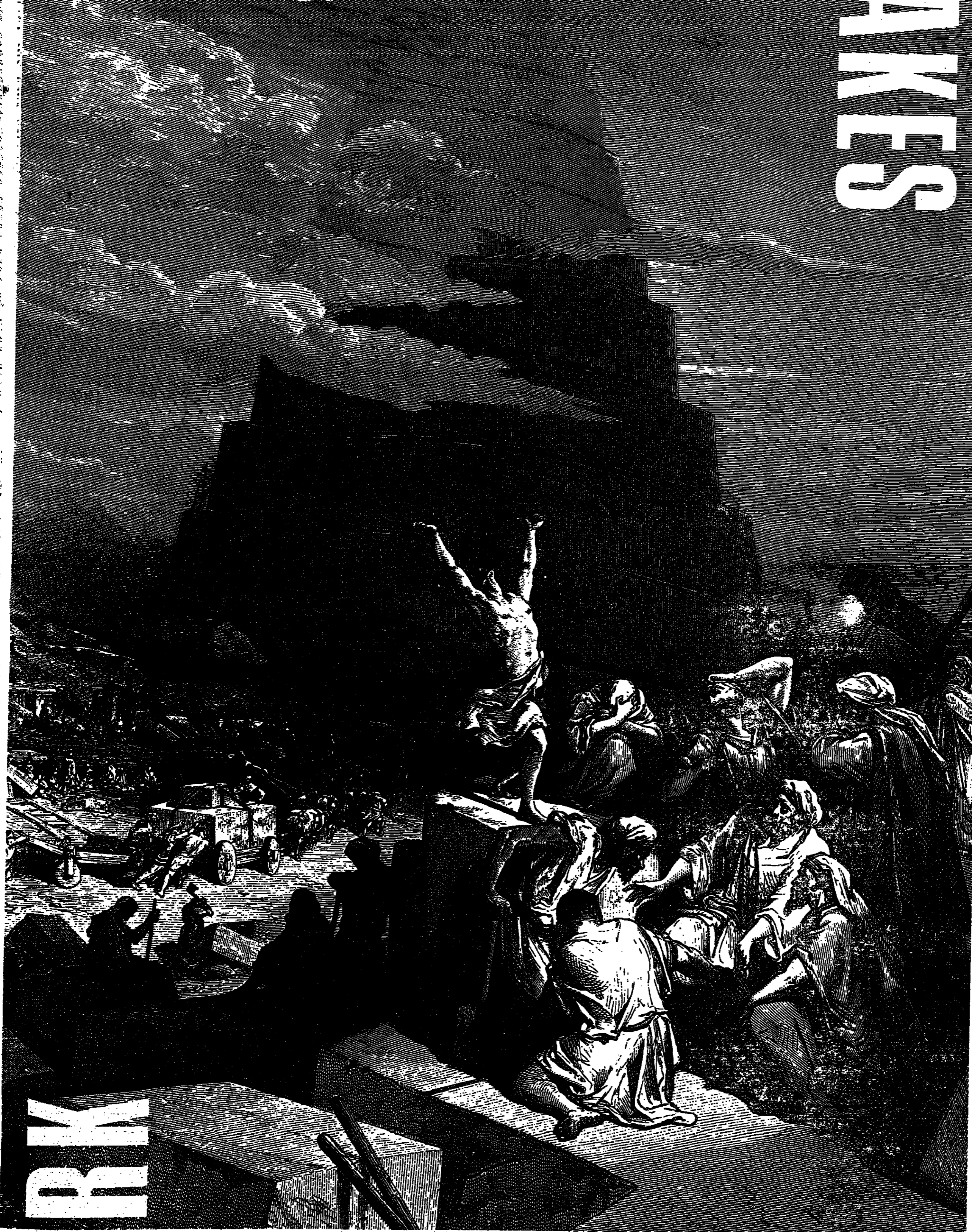
Dr Vranitzky: optimistic of an election majority

Advertisement for 'THE BIG PRE-CHRISTMAS FUR LIQUIDATION Sale' featuring a list of fur items and prices.

Handwritten Arabic text at the bottom of the page.

WANG

MAKES



WORK

And they said, Go to, let us build a city and a tower, whose top may reach unto heaven:

And the Lord said, Behold, the people is one, and they have all one language... and now nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do. Let us go down, and there confound their language, that they may not understand one another.

GENESIS 11:1-9

So He gave us, amongst other things, computer systems.

Just how much potential is wasted by companies' computers not working together is something no computer in the world can quantify.

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alongside almost any combination of hardware, gets all your computers teamed up and working together to their full. So there's nothing to stop your company doing the same.

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Herzog's surprise visit to Sri Lanka

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THE ARTS

Turning doubles into triples

One sobering lesson suggested by This Week (Thames) was that, if you must conduct illicit arms deals in swanky hotels, check out the wallpaper first: there will probably be a video camera. Another was that you should never trust a double agent: he will probably turn out to be a triple agent.

TELEVISION

This extraordinary edition was in the pipeline some weeks before the recent revelations about President Reagan's born-again friendliness to the ayatollahs, and its impressive evidence of veal duplicity was well timed to cause maximum embarrassment to more than one government. Ten conspirators, including an Israeli war hero and Adnan Kashoggi's lawyer, are now under indictment for attempting to supply Iran with old American hardware, and the central figure in the "siding" operation that netted them has died.

Confronted with the U.S. Customs' foggy video, the genial merchants tried on the postures of schoolboy innocence. But sir, the prefects said we could smoke during chapel. The awkward thing is that they may be telling the truth.

Forty Minutes (BBC2) weighed in with a brisk, often funny rummage through The Englishwoman's Wardrobe - a colour-slip idea which the reporter Angela Huth expanded into a memorable piece of television. "Hopefully one doesn't look ridiculous," hoped Lady Rochester, looking like a boiled sweet done up with ribbons. "If we take her to Watford, it's got to be dark!"

A rather frightening film producer was shown pumping iron before stepping into a big black number that showed off her rear cleavage, while the editing of Mrs Thatcher's eager contribution made it look as if she might be trying to sell something.

On the same channel, the sainted Phil Silvers returned for a new season of peerless repeats. If Bilko were still in harness today, he would doubtless be flogging spare Skyhawks to Iran.

Martin Cropper

Celebrations of freedom won by outrage

Shortly before his death in Paris in 1966 André Breton, the animator of the Surrealist movement, was visited on his sick-bed by his old friend, the Spanish film director Luis Buñuel. Later that same day, Buñuel told me that Breton's parting words had been "Dear friend, no one is scandalized any more". Of the three Spanish artists being presented by the BBC tonight, and on the next two Fridays, only Dali persisted in presuming that society could be scandalized by the artist.

Yet all three, in one way or another, were children of scandal. Buñuel, the Jesuit schoolboy, flashed his way on to the world's screens, cutting eyeballs with razors and hurling, as Henry Miller said of him, dynamic sticks. He was repaid with inkpots thrown by fascist brigades at showings of his early films. Lorca's scandal was of a quieter kind: a woman dressed in black gives fervent thanks that her daughter died a virgin.

They stopped. Or were stopped. An artist is as great as the obstacles that he or she is unable to surmount. Lorca, who had made poetry and theatre out of his life, was stopped by the greatest scandal of all, death, on August 19, 1936, in Granada. He was accompanied by a schoolmaster, two bullfighters and a couple of thieves, he was executed by the para-military fascist organization called The Black Squad.

Buñuel was stopped by history, including the history that murdered his friend Lorca. How could one follow Breton's instructions for the perfect Surrealist act - go out into the streets and shoot indiscriminately at the crowd - when this was actually being done by Hitler and Stalin? No aesthetic scandal could top the historical scandal of Auschwitz and the Gulag. Buñuel's greatest consistency in going beyond the surrealist scandal to the scandal of history: we are the authors of

history, yet we are also its victims. The wonderful images of Los Olvidados - the dreaming slum-children of Mexico, the corruption of poverty - and The Discreet Charm of the Bourgeoisie - the nightmares of French cuisine, the rich as the needy - of Robinson Crusoe - a lonely man on an island, having to decide whether his native companion is to be a slave or a friend - and The Exterminating Angel - the terrible fear, both ageless and all too contemporary, of being either imprisoned or abandoned outside - form an unrivaled corpus of critical commentary in the cinema. They are also, I believe, one of the

greatest 20th-century statements about the breadth and limit of freedom attainable through the arts.

Surrealism flooded the 20th century with images we had forgotten, dreamt about, or discovered thanks to a new material world of motion and comfort. Dali, whose writings on critical paranoia and paintings of melting watches and sub-lunar landscapes became part of the aesthetic canon of the times, was the principal purveyor of Surrealism as décor, advertisement, commerce.

The scandalous discoveries of the Twenties and Thirties are now with us everywhere: in television

Tonight Arena (BBC2) commences a series of programmes on three of the great Spanish artists of the century, Buñuel, Dali and Lorca. Carlos Fuentes, leading Hispanic writer and currently visiting professor at Cambridge University, assesses the influence of these "children of scandal"

Salvador Dali (left), in characteristic pose, "the principal purveyor of Surrealism as décor, advertisement, commerce"; Federico García Lorca, depicted on a postage stamp issued in the Republican Zone in 1938, who "had no time to enter the consumer's society";

and a 1927 cartoon of Luis Buñuel, "who entered it to tell us that it was not the best of all possible worlds"



Catholic, royalist, a marquis, decorated with sundry monarchical orders. Perhaps he was the most courageous of all: he courted the devil. These three men were early friends and companions. One died young, the others lived into their eighties. They are alive, as artists, to a world-wide audience. Yet their originality, along with their youthful friendship, is deeply rooted in Spain. In Spain all three of them found the images, the latent universal meanings that the modern world had forgotten. They drew from the picaresque novel, Cervantes and Velázquez, the equally scandalous Quevedo and the mystic St Teresa and, of course, from both the popular light and the black bitterness of Goya. No illusion here, but a lot of hope: this was their paradox. Or as another, all-too-central-European eccentric, Franz Kafka, once put it, "there shall be much hope, but not for us".

Dali, Buñuel and Lorca also announced the loss of centrality of traditional European culture. It is not surprising that Spain, for a long time the *finis terra* of Europe, should have given the world these three central eccentrics. Dali, Buñuel and Lorca tell us that all cultures, having become eccentric, have now also become central.

Purely on the strength of his first book, Ruth, which has only just been published, Jeremy Cooper (right) is already being hailed as "a major British novelist": interview by Sarah Jane Checkland

Craftsman with a difference

Charles Grahame, purveyor of lingerie and late day wear, whatever that is, to the Queen Mother and Princess Diana. I hate baskets, and plan to ban such things in the window when the next lease comes up." Jeremy Cooper's intransigence in matters of taste is in fact justified, as he successfully completed no fewer than three antique-related careers before turning novelist, aged 37, in 1983. Until 1977 he was a director of Sotheby's and tipped to succeed the chairman, Peter Wilson; he was hailed as the new Arthur Negus on the Antiques Roadshow. He has written five books on antiques and how the trade operates. But Cooper has now plotted to upstage both Mrs Grahame's aesthetic sense and her

feminine sensibilities. Less the agent about than the monk in retreat, he spent one intensive year, ten hours a day, seven days a week, writing the life-story of a suicidal young woman.

Cooper's heroine is a plain woman, pushing 30, a dropout among Yuppies, living in virtual solitude with her widowed mother. Her obsessions and fantasies are her main companions, focusing as they do on her dead father, God and the boyfriend who marries another. Cooper has based his book around a girl, now dead, he once knew: Jane Urquhart, who was also the artist responsible for the haunting dust-jacket picture of two Edwardian dolls trapped in a crumbling cardboard box.

The fact that the story is in part reportage makes his achievement no less remarkable, as in a skilfully filtering stream of consciousness he has succeeded in conveying a sense of obsessive repetition while avoiding monotony. He also leaves open the ultimate question - whether the heroine is physically or mentally ill, or neither. She constantly debates her symptoms with herself but, as her doctor says in Chapter 2, "there is nothing inherently wrong with you". Cooper is gratified at the number of people who read the manuscript and say "You must know...". It means that, with Ruth, he has hit a nerve. Perhaps his mission was made possible by the affinities between the Ruth character's



experience and his own, both being that of self-imposed solitude. Having been a schoolboy star at Harrow, he rebelled and was sacked; he resigned from Sotheby's at the most propitious time in his career; more recently he left his wife. "Life doesn't normally have such self-inflicted change. I am not proud of it."

And so, when Ruth's doctor says "You've got to find your place in the story before you can hope to make sense of the plot", it could well double for the author's predicament too.

Writing did not come easily. Cooper cannot spell, and describes his literary skills as "marginal". Sometimes he only writes two or three hundred words a day. But his personal struggle does have its own dividends. The text never slackens into the glib delivery of the virtuoso; like Ruth herself, he sees things visually.

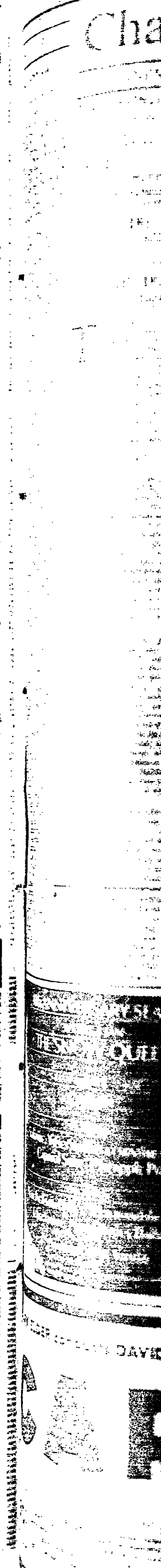
When the task of writing was over, another, that of finding a publisher, began. Faber kept the manuscript for eight months only to return it with a note asking for a rewrite. He gained little consolation from friends who expressed confidence that he would eventually succeed, as "they assumed I had written a Jeffrey Archer-style novel, something with that sort of appeal". Fortune changed, however, when the manuscript was read by Kate Mosse,

the 24-year-old editor at Century Hutchinson and radical feminist. Convinced of its merits, she passed it on to a reader who announced that the only other male author to have entered so successfully an ill woman's mind was Patrick White.

Soon she was encouraging him through the fine tuning of Ruth. There were no complaints about most scenes, even those of a feminine, sexual nature. Kate Mosse did, however, raise a practical query as to the fate of Ruth's knickers in her solitary bacchanalian revelry in the garden. Cooper had caused Ruth to cast them off in a moment of abandonment, and walk on down the path. "But you can't just write that," explained the editor, "every-one will want to know where they landed." Together, and without the assistance of Mrs Grahame, lingerie expert, Cooper and his editor decided their fate. Ruth is published by Century Hutchinson at £9.95.

ENTERTAINMENTS

A large grid of entertainment listings for various venues including the Royal Opera House, National Theatre, and various theatres and galleries. Listings include plays like 'The Hit Musical', 'The Business of Murder', and 'The Phantom of the Opera', along with concert and gallery information.



THE ARTS

Charming away life's tumult



Irrepressibly beautiful: Catherine Mouchet's exquisite playing in the title-role of Thérèse

CINEMA
Thérèse (PG)
Cannons Swiss Centre, Baker Street

Greed
London Film Festival (Queen Elizabeth Hall)

Angelos (18)
Cannons Piccadilly, Swiss Centre

Psycho III (18)
Cannon Haymarket

There is a clue to the attraction of Alain Cavalier's Thérèse in the director's statement that he wanted "to get away from the mass of images and sound with which I am bombarded every day".

The film is a free interpretation of the life and death of St. Thérèse of Lisieux, a young Carmelite nun who died of tuberculosis at the age of 24 in 1897, and was canonized in 1925.

The charm and the pathos of Thérèse and her spiritual sisters is that they are so wholly and fallibly human. Brides of Christ they may be, but they are as vulnerable to the weaknesses of vanity, prejudice, meanness, envy, desire and ill-will as anyone else.

The first impression of the work (it was originally shown at the Cannes Festival, where it received the Jury Prize) is of a benign, devout affection for the part of Cavalier.

New productions of Verdi's La Traviata and the Ravel double bill of L'Enfant et les sortilèges and L'Heure espagnole are included in next year's Glyndebourne Festival.

ambiguous. His feeling for Thérèse herself, however, is unqualified. The sweet, obsessive, lively, incorruptibly good child is exquisitely played by a first-time film actress, Catherine Mouchet.

It is this version which can be seen tomorrow and on Sunday at the 1986 "Thomas Silents" presentation at the London Film Festival.

Whoever chooses the repertoire for the annual Royal Concert, in aid of the Musicians Benevolent Fund, has a wry sense of irony.

poraries, accustomed to soothing sentiment and happy ends. A trade reviewer of the time called it "the filthiest, vilest, most putrid picture in the history of the motion picture business".

Stroheim insisted on shooting everything on real locations: the streets and bars of Twenties San Francisco, the sewer on the city outskirts where the lovers have their first meeting, and Death Valley, at 140 degrees in the shade - but there was no shade.

Music was an integral element of the wordless cinema - it was never truly silent - and Carl Davis's orchestral score, first heard at the Edinburgh Festival, intelligently complements the images and heightens the powerful emotional effect.

wretched home, who moves into a love-nest with a young marine. In no time at all his friend forces him to earn their keep, working as a transvestite prostitute.

This is a startling view of the macho Greek, suggesting that even married men like a little homosexuality on the side, as long as, for appearance's sake, it comes in skirts.

There is more transvestism in Psycho III. To make one sequel to Hitchcock's Psycho seemed a poor idea, but it earned a lot of money at the box-office.

Angelos is a curious film to come from Greece, where not so long ago they banned Ron Peck's innocent Nighthawks. It tells the tale of a handsome, hapless lad from a

CONCERTS

RPO/Dorati
Festival Hall/ Radio 3

Whoever chooses the repertoire for the annual Royal Concert, in aid of the Musicians Benevolent Fund, has a wry sense of irony.

The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra somehow failed to get excited about its former supreme's orchestrations, and in truth the scoring has its crass moments.

Beecham/Händel also persuaded the conductor, Antal Dorati, to tinkle occasionally on a tiny harpsichord in front of him - an instrument to which he returned intermittently in Haydn's Symphony No 3.

In Chausson's ravishing Poème Sir Yehudi Menuhin was the soloist. Of course he no longer has the control or dexterity that were once his, it seemed, by natural right.

The Kneller Hall trumpeters displayed their delicate art at the start of each half. Apparently the fanfare repertoire includes a slightly unlikely contribution by Debussy.

Contemporary Music Network

Bloomsbury Theatre

An evening of music by the 60-year-old Hungarian composer György Kurtág - especially when, thanks to the Contemporary Music Network, it is to be toured to five different corners of England - has to be a good thing.

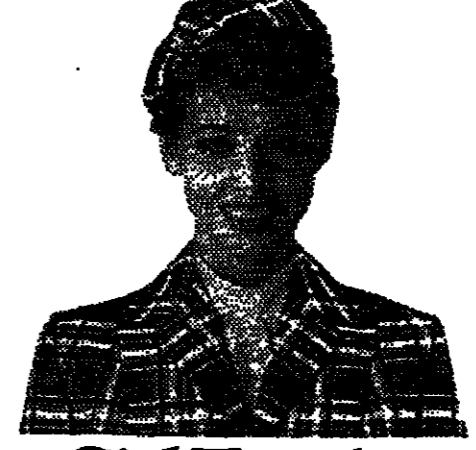
Despite the missionary zeal of the London Sinfonietta, despite festival appearances at Bath and Cheltenham, we still hear too little of this most disciplined and imaginative miniaturist.

The Attila József Fragments, for instance (first performed in 1982), are highly expressive and distinctive unaccompanied images of the artist's working mind.

As the evening wore on, the cavernous space of the Bloomsbury Theatre seemed increasingly to diffuse and attenuate engagement with what should be intense and intensely projected music.

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Girl Monday.



Girl Tuesday.



Girl Wednesday.



Girl Thursday.



Girl Friday.



Girl Saturday.



Girl Sunday.



British Caledonian. We never forget you have a choice. Hilary Finch

THEATRE

Killing Jessica Savoy

According to its director, Bryan Forbes, this adapted television thriller by Richard Levinson and William Link is "as good as The Mousetrap".

Set on the stage of a Broadway theatre, Killing Jessica consists of a performance arranged by a playwright to entrap the murderer of his actress fiancée.

All this is reflected by Mr Forbes's company, who give a faithful performance of how theatre people are supposed to behave. Nobody, least of all the suave playwright, comes out with any rubbish about art.

Having so far evaded the thankless task of outlining a plot with both hands tied behind my back, I can disclose that it reunites the members of the company a year after the collapse of Alex's play on the eve of his wedding to the leading lady.

Irving Wardle

40th Anniversary Season. THE SNOW QUEEN. Royal Ballet. Sadler's Wells Theatre. 30 DEC - 3 JAN.

MARK ELDER conducts DAVID POUNTNEY's new production of Bizet's CARMEN. Opens Thursday at 7.00 then Nov 27, 29; Dec 2, 5, 10, 13, 17, 20, 23, 29, Jan 3, 6, 13, 16, 21, 24.

FRIDAY PAGE



The writer through one pair of eyes: "a definite reflection of my face, not so much my face now as a picture I have at home, of myself at six years old"

Me as I am as I was

The invitation was virtually irresistible. On florid bohemian notepaper adorned with a giant sunflower, John Bratby (RA, ARCA, etc) was asking if he could paint me. "Your individuality, what you are, what you have done and what you are doing, your personal distinction from Humanity's mass, is the reason," he typed enticingly.

He had, he continued, already portrayed faces-to-face such persons as "Lord Gormley, the Queen Mother, Sir Alec Guinness, Paul McCartney and Sir Michael Edwards". It would take less than four hours, and his wife Patti would feed me a light lunch. The address was "The Cupola and Tower of the Winds", in Hastings.

Well, people have travelled further for less flattering reasons, and to less romantic addresses. After all, the vague but splendid enigma which opened the letter was brilliantly calculated. Unlike most flattery, it did not immediately arouse mistrust or suspicion: we are all doing something, after all, even if it is only raising a family and scratching a living.

It was an offer Libby Purves could not refuse - to join Lord Gormley and Paul McCartney among the ranks of those whose portrait has been painted by John Bratby (left)

Making sheaths safer

Studies have shown that condoms are particularly effective in reducing the spread of gonorrhoea and less successful - yet still very useful - in containing non-specific urethritis and syphilis. Evidence is now being advanced to support their use in the battle against Aids, by making sexual intercourse safer.

MEDICAL BRIEFING

sexual partners of Aids victims in relation to the use of otherwise barrier methods. Thirty-two patients with Aids were studied. Eight couples abstained from sexual intercourse - none of the sero-negative partners became HIV sero-positive. Fourteen Aids patients persisted with intercourse without using a condom - 12 of the partners became sero-positive. Ten couples used condoms - only one caught the infection.

Simple test for a child killer

Neuroblastoma, one of the most common - and lethal - tumours of early childhood, affects one child in every 12,000. Now a simple screening test to detect it at a stage when treatment would be effective is being evaluated during the next year in 40,000 Tyneside children.

Royal ulcer

The Queen Mother's cheerful smile as she left hospital last week was a reflection of her own vitality and paid credit to her treatment, for within a few days of her admission to the hospital her leg ulcer was healing.

Hip hooray

The recently discovered body of a British soldier killed in the American War of Independence was found before experts had traced the bones to the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry. The clue for pathologists was the wear and tear in the hip joints, for although people from all walks of life suffer osteoarthritis in these joints it is particularly prevalent in farm labourers.

TALKBACK

could be restored to normal by electro-massage. Electrodes were duly clamped, twice a week for six weeks, to the back of my neck, and I think I must have been at least partially cured as I was released from wearing glasses except for reading.

From Mrs H F Prescott, Marnhill, near Sturminster Newton, Dorset.

Reading the article "Young Eyes" (Medical Briefing, November 14), I was reminded of treatment I received some 40 years ago when I was 13 or 14 years old, following an attack of measles.

From Noel Oswald, Braintree, Essex.

There was something ironic, in the meeting reported by Libby Purves (Friday Page, November 14) about the suggestion of one gentleman that women should, in effect, go to prostitutes for advice on how to protect themselves. One might question whether, at the most general level, the abuse of their beauty by women is any less of an offence than men's abuse of their strength.

Boys get dog tired

It was not an unreasonable request and we had half expected it. Yet, when it came, our hearts sank. "Daddy, Mummy, could we have a dog?" No-one could accuse us of trying to avoid pets altogether. It was just that we had hoped the cat would do.



Look a million dollars for our official opening at 61 Piccadilly

Advertisement for Piccadilly Fur Superstore. Features a large image of a fur coat and a list of items with prices. Text includes: "LAST CHANCE THIS WEEKEND ONLY", "...for 1/10th of the price.", "We celebrated the opening of our new Piccadilly Fur Superstore with a very special 90% off offer. It's been such a success, with hundreds of happy customers, that we're extending it for one final weekend."

Advertisement for HEAL'S. Features a large image of a gold band porcelain tableware set. Text includes: "EXCLUSIVELY AT HEAL'S", "196 Tottenham Court Road London W1 • Tunsgate Guildford • Drummond Place Croydon • Eden Walk Kingston".

THE TIMES DIARY

Tebbit upstaged

Only a week after Norman Tebbit severed links with the Federation of Conservative Students for being embarrassingly right wing...

Poll tacks

A pointer to how the parties will fare at the next general election comes from I.G. Index...

Tell George

The Esperanto Parliamentary Group (remember Esperanto, the language to end all languages?)...

Near miss

The Prince and Princess of Wales came perilously close to bumping into General Idi Amin in Saudi Arabia...



'I bet they're allowed to open on Sundays'

Half measures

While everyone else seemed to be glugging Beaujolais Nouveau yesterday, I celebrated the 50th anniversary of Pierre Janneau's chairmanship...

Last words

Meat baron Lord Vestey has decided that mum's the word because of the trouble that has followed his speeches in the House of Lords...

Nuclear debate: Andrew McEwen previews Mrs Thatcher's Paris talks; David Watt on the special relationship

United front on a European deterrent

The Prime Minister could be forgiven for envying her French host today when she arrives in Paris to brief President Mitterrand on her talks last weekend with President Reagan...

French believe that Mrs Thatcher agrees with these views, and they are undoubtedly right, however much Whitehall hedges about her position with caveats...

Whether the declaration's failure to mention abolition of all ballistic missiles reinforces Whitehall's interpretation or shows it to be wishful thinking is hotly debated...

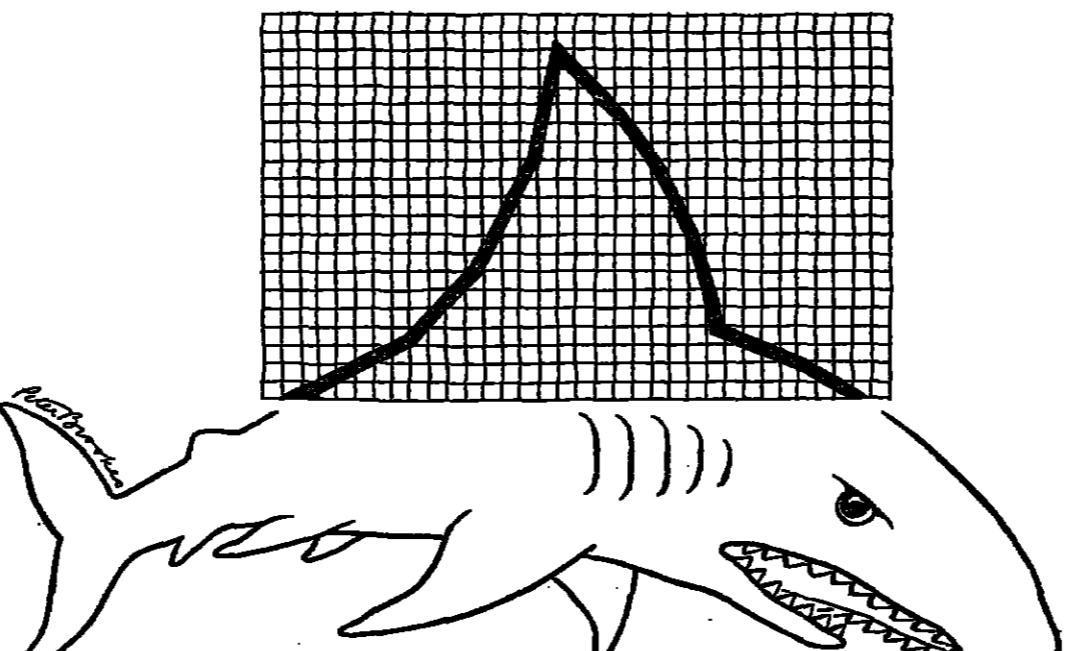
Slim pickings at Camp David

Broadly, two verdicts have been passed on Mrs Thatcher's trip to Camp David last weekend. The first is that she proved once again that Britain's "special relationship" with America lives on...

Edgar Palmountain argues that the market cannot be left to itself

Takeovers: who benefits?

BTR's £1.2 billion bid yesterday for Pilkington Brothers, Britain's biggest glass manufacturer, can only heighten the public belief that the City's principal activity is launching takeovers or fighting them off...



depressed by the expenses incurred. To the directors and managers, however, what matters is size: an enlarged company conventionally justifies higher salaries, bigger cars, grander offices...

Far more important than the detail is the fact that it suggests to the world that Mrs Thatcher has more influence over President Reagan than any other leader...

moreover... Miles Kingston

Yes, I do want to alarm you

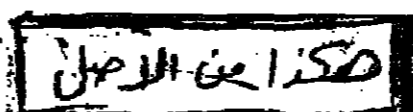
Today we have a very special offer indeed. It is for the Moreover Alarm Clock, which is available to you for only £17.99 each (plus postage and packing of £4.50)...

When Reagan first helped Khomeini

Soviet spy inside GCHQ, the top secret communications centre at Cheltenham. At first M16 kept Kuzichkin to itself. But finally, after debriefing sessions at a country house in Sussex...

involved in behind-the-scenes exchanges with the Khomeini leadership for some years. They say it was one of many ploys to try to win favour with Iran and to diminish Soviet influence in a country bordering the Soviet Union...

Michael Evans Whitehall Correspondent



سكنا من الامم

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS AND IN MEMORIAM

IN GOD we trust... BIRTHS... DEATHS... IN MEMORIAM

MARTIN - On November 17th 1986, at King Edward VII Hospital for Cancer...

DEATHS... BIRTHS... IN MEMORIAM

MAYE - On November 20th, Grace Mary, nee O'Donnell aged 82 years...

DEATHS... BIRTHS... IN MEMORIAM

WELLS - On November 17th 1986, Denis William Daniels, aged 66 years...

DEATHS... BIRTHS... IN MEMORIAM

WELLS - On November 17th 1986, Denis William Daniels, aged 66 years...

DEATHS... BIRTHS... IN MEMORIAM

WELLS - On November 17th 1986, Denis William Daniels, aged 66 years...

PERSONAL COLUMN

ANNOUNCEMENTS... DIALYSIS AND TRANSPLANT THEIR ONLY HOPE... THE BRITISH KIDNEY PATIENT ASSOCIATION

FORSALE... YOU'LL BE FLOORED BY OUR PRICES AT RESISTA CARPETS... CHAPPEL OF BOND ST PIANOS

DISCOUNTED FARES... LOWEST FARES... UP AND AWAY

NEW LOW FARES... FLATSHARE... SEARCH LAYERS

ANNOUNCEMENTS... LEUKAEMIA RESEARCH FUND... We can't care for the victims of cancer unless you do.

OVERSEAS TRAVEL... ITS ALL AT TRAILFINDERS... DISCOUNTED FARES

DISCOUNTED FARES... LOWEST FARES... UP AND AWAY

NEW LOW FARES... FLATSHARE... SEARCH LAYERS

ANNOUNCEMENTS... LEUKAEMIA RESEARCH FUND... We can't care for the victims of cancer unless you do.

WINTER SPORTS... SKI WHIZZ... FREE HOLIDAY PRIZE DRAW

DISCOUNTED FARES... LOWEST FARES... UP AND AWAY

NEW LOW FARES... FLATSHARE... SEARCH LAYERS

ANNOUNCEMENTS... LEUKAEMIA RESEARCH FUND... We can't care for the victims of cancer unless you do.

RENTALS... HOLLAND PK W11... MAYFAIR W1

DISCOUNTED FARES... LOWEST FARES... UP AND AWAY

NEW LOW FARES... FLATSHARE... SEARCH LAYERS

ANNOUNCEMENTS... LEUKAEMIA RESEARCH FUND... We can't care for the victims of cancer unless you do.

DOMESTIC & CATERING SITUATIONS... CIVIL AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION

DISCOUNTED FARES... LOWEST FARES... UP AND AWAY

NEW LOW FARES... FLATSHARE... SEARCH LAYERS

ANNOUNCEMENTS... LEUKAEMIA RESEARCH FUND... We can't care for the victims of cancer unless you do.

PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES... NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Secretary of State has introduced into the House of Commons...

Science report... Scentsing success in fight to save the otter... Attempts to stop the decline of the otter, by repopulating areas from which they have disappeared...

ANNOUNCEMENTS... LEUKAEMIA RESEARCH FUND... We can't care for the victims of cancer unless you do.

ANNOUNCEMENTS... LEUKAEMIA RESEARCH FUND... We can't care for the victims of cancer unless you do.

ANNOUNCEMENTS... LEUKAEMIA RESEARCH FUND... We can't care for the victims of cancer unless you do.

ANNOUNCEMENTS... LEUKAEMIA RESEARCH FUND... We can't care for the victims of cancer unless you do.

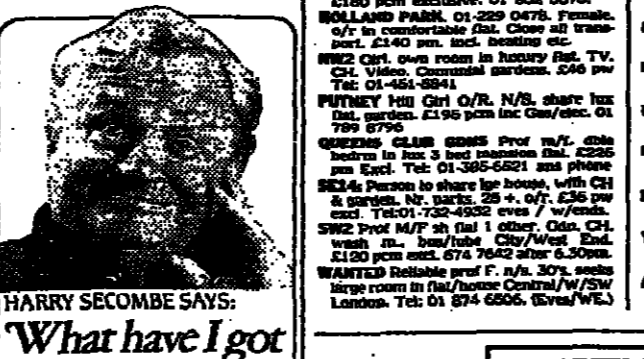
Service dinners... HMS Daedalus... Rear-Admiral I.E. Middleton, Flag Officer Naval Command, was the guest of honour...

ANNOUNCEMENTS... LEUKAEMIA RESEARCH FUND... We can't care for the victims of cancer unless you do.

ANNOUNCEMENTS... LEUKAEMIA RESEARCH FUND... We can't care for the victims of cancer unless you do.

ANNOUNCEMENTS... LEUKAEMIA RESEARCH FUND... We can't care for the victims of cancer unless you do.

ANNOUNCEMENTS... LEUKAEMIA RESEARCH FUND... We can't care for the victims of cancer unless you do.



What have I got that I can't give?... HARRY SCOBMEY SAYS: Diabetes is not infectious but it can be cured. It is still incurable but we can fight the damage and suffering it can cause...

WINTER SPORTS... JOIN BLADON LINES THIS CHRISTMAS AND SAVE \$\$\$

ANNOUNCEMENTS... LEUKAEMIA RESEARCH FUND... We can't care for the victims of cancer unless you do.

WALL STREET

Prices rise as effects of scandal subside

New York (Reuters)—Share prices surged ahead in early trading yesterday as investors moved into fundamentally strong issues, particularly blue chips.

The Dow Jones industrial average was up 9.42 to 1,836.05 at one stage when the

Table with 4 columns: Company Name, Nov 19, Nov 18, Nov 19, Nov 18. Lists various stocks like AAR, ASAR, Allied Signal, etc.

BP profits better than most City forecasts

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

BP yesterday shrugged off the fall in the world oil price, the decline in the value of sterling and a £1 billion loss on the value of its oil stocks to report higher-than-expected profits for the first nine months of this year.

The figures show that BP is now sitting on more than £4 billion in cash, although dividends and payments for its £545 million (£383.8) takeover of the Prudhoe Hills business in the United States will reduce that to just under

£3 billion by the beginning of next year. In addition, the Standard Oil business in the US has made a £116 million contribution to profits because of tax concessions despite losses on exploration. Its US marketing operations also moved into profit.

However, it is the turnaround in the fortunes of its British and European oil refining and marketing business which is making the profits which cancel out losses on oil exploration and production caused by the lower world oil price.

£14.5m bid for Grosvenor

By Judith Hamley

Associated British Ports Holdings, which went public in 1983, is making an agreed three-for-seven share offer for Grosvenor Square Properties, the United Securities Market developer set up by Mr Paul Marber.

James Sherwood's loss-making Sea Containers group. Sir Keith said: "We had an approach from Sea Containers two or three weeks ago, asking us if we might be interested in becoming involved in one or more of their sea ports."

CBI chief urges self-help

By Our Energy Correspondent

British industry was told yesterday by Sir Terence Beckett, director general of the Confederation of British Industry, that it should not look towards the Government to improve its competitive position.

Speaking in the Midlands, he said that artificial pump pricing by the Government was no substitute for genuine company competitiveness in maintaining jobs or creating new ones.

Sir Terence said that the CBI is an intensely political organization but denied that it was party political. He said: "We stand up for, and speak for, business — which in the end will pay Britain's bills. We are interested in political action which will help British business to prosper. And we will speak up in favour of those policies which will help us do a better job."

Chloride surges on cost savings

By Alison Eadie

Chloride, the batteries group, is reaping the benefits of both cost-cutting measures announced in January and a reduction in pension contributions.

It made pretax profits in the six months to September 30 of £5.3 million against only £700,000 in the previous first half. The pensions holiday was worth £1.5 million.

Turnover decreased by 24.4 per cent to £127.1 million. Operating profits were 50 per cent higher at £7.8 million and interest costs more than halved to £2.3 million.

Extel lifts profits by 27% to £7.3 million

By Our City Staff

Extel, the news agency, printing and publishing group being stalked by Mr Robert Maxwell, made pretax profits in the six months to September 30 of £7.3 million, a rise of 27 per cent.

The dividend was raised by a 50 per cent to 3p per share. However, the results are complicated by the inclusion, on a merger accounting basis, of Dealers' Digest, the American financial publishing operation bought in August, and by the sale of Royds Advertising Group.

GEC eyes sales beyond Nimrod

By Anne Warden

The battle over the Nimrod early warning reconnaissance aircraft, on which the Government is due to make a decision in the next few weeks, is about contracts worth "10 times as much" as the Ministry of Defence order, according to GEC.

strategy in which Britain can compete globally with American and Japanese conglomerates. Mr Derek Roberts, joint deputy managing director in charge of technology, added: "For the next 50 years the Chinese market in every area that we work in is going to be the fastest growth area."

CANADIAN PRICES

Table listing various Canadian companies and their prices, including Agnico Eagle, Alcan Alum, Algoma Steel, etc.

COMPANY NEWS

JOHN FOSTER: The dividend for the half year to August 29 is 1p (same), payable on January 16. Figures in 6000s. Turnover 8,510 (£0.337). Operating loss 215 (486 profit). Interest payable 253 (435). Pre-tax loss 467 (51 profit). Tax 35 (37). Extraordinary charge 130 (nil). Loss per share 5.8p (0.2p earnings).

CELTIC HAVEN: Mr M Sheppard, the chairman, said that management figures indicate that results for the half year to September 30 will be satisfactory. WEMYSS INVESTMENT TRUST: Results for the year to September 30 in 6000s. Final dividend 8.0p (14.0p) making 16p (22p). Profit on ordinary activities before tax 816 (819). Tax 271 (299). Profit for the financial year 438 (520).

POINTING THE WAY TO CONTINUED PROFIT GROWTH.

Table with 4 columns: Metric, 6 months to 30 Sept 1986, 6 months to 30 Sept 1985, Year to 31 Mar 1986. Shows turnover, profit, earnings per share, etc.

international telecommunications operator. By the end of this year, 30 cities will be linked together to create the largest digital network in Europe, and Mercury will be contributing to Group profits during 1987.

The Directors of Cable and Wireless report the following unaudited results for the six months ended 30 September 1986. The profit before tax of £160m is an improvement of 18% over the £136m for the equivalent period in 1985.

The Directors are confident of the Group's continuing long-term profitability as Cable and Wireless develops its global strategy.



CONSOLIDATED GOLD: A subsidiary of the CGF, has acquired Bristol Sand and Gravel and Homs Sand and Gravel (1985) for an undisclosed price. Bristol Sand was previously 50 per cent owned by British Drilling, with the balance held by individual shareholders of Homs Sand. Bristol Sand operates two marine aggregate wharves, one at Dumballs, Bridgewater.

LONDON TRUST: Results for the six months to September 30 in 6000s. Revenue from investments 457 (2,233). Other income 884 (309). Gross revenue 1,343 (2,542). Net revenue before tax 219 (361 loss). Tax 178 (259 loss). Earnings per share 0.17p (0.61p loss). Net asset value per ordinary share 86.4p (91.4p).

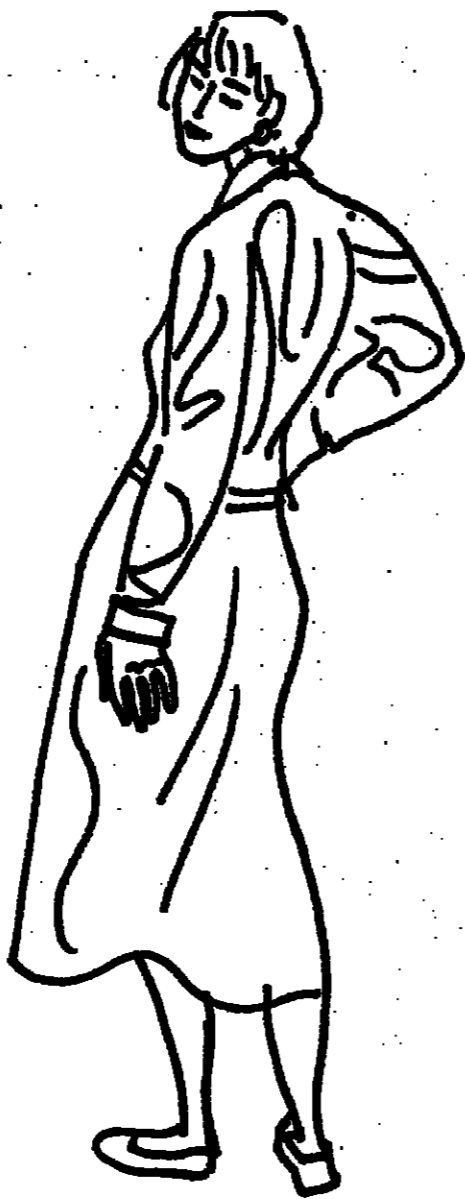
BASE LENDING RATES: ABR 11.00%, Adam & Company 11.00%, BCCI 11.00%, Citibank Savings 12.45%, Consolidated Cds 11.00%, Co-operative Bank 11.00%, C. Hoare & Co 11.00%, Hong Kong & Shanghai 11.00%, Leeds Bank 11.00%, Nat Westminster 11.00%, Royal Bank of Scotland 11.00%, TSB 11.00%, Citibank NA 11.00%

Extel advertisement featuring a large 'Extel' logo, 'INTERIM UP FROM £5.7m to £7.3m', and a table of financial performance metrics for six months and year-to-date.

Large vertical advertisement on the right edge of the page, partially cut off, mentioning 'aces ba' and 'shares gi'.



The Young Market: Dorothy Perkins



The Style Market: Principles



The Teenage Market: Top Shop/Top Man



The Larger Market: Evans

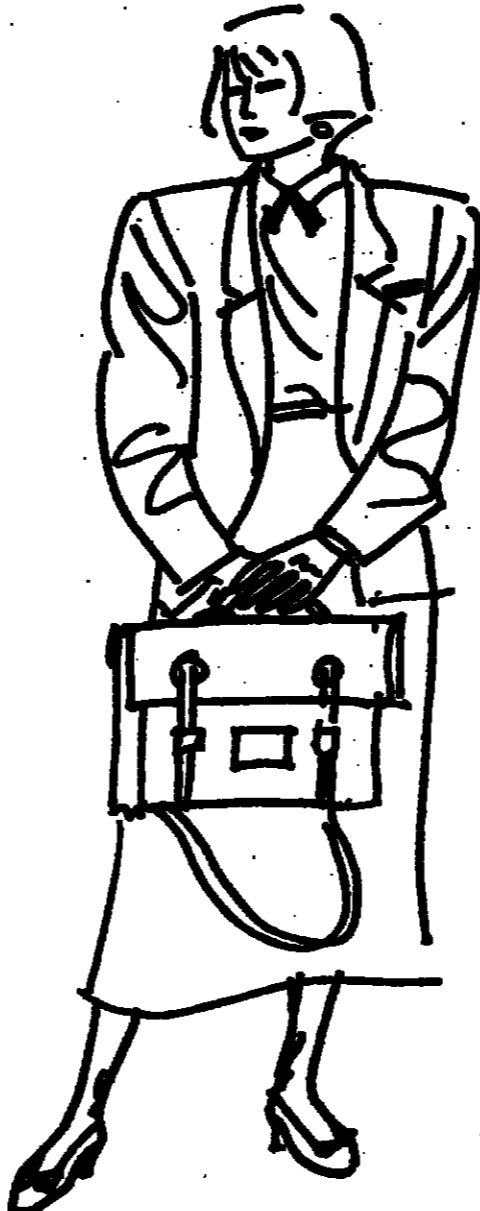
The secret of successful retailing is giving the market what it wants.



The Men's Market: Burton



The Knightsbridge Market: Harvey Nichols



The Family Market: Debenhams



The Stock Market

Once again shareholders get something they like the look of from Burton.

Profits up 85% to £148.7 million. Earnings per share up 22%. Dividend up 29.6% to 5.7p. Group sales up 123% to £1.2 billion. Market share up to 9%. Debt reduced from £261 million to £130 million.

They are excellent figures, but hardly surprising when you recall we've returned record profits for the past six years.

It isn't just our shareholders who have profited. Successful employee achievement has been rewarded, and 24,000 of our staff have participated in performance related incentive schemes that paid £13.1 million.

In fact, all of Britain benefited. Our sales of British made goods were up by more than £150 million last year. We created over a thousand new full time jobs, and of the 1300 young people who

joined Burton through the Youth Training Scheme, 70% now have permanent jobs with us.

So much for 1986. But what are we doing about the coming years? We've literally laid the foundations, adding 75 new shops in 259,000 square feet of space, including the first new look Debenhams, which opened its doors last month to the delighted families of Preston.

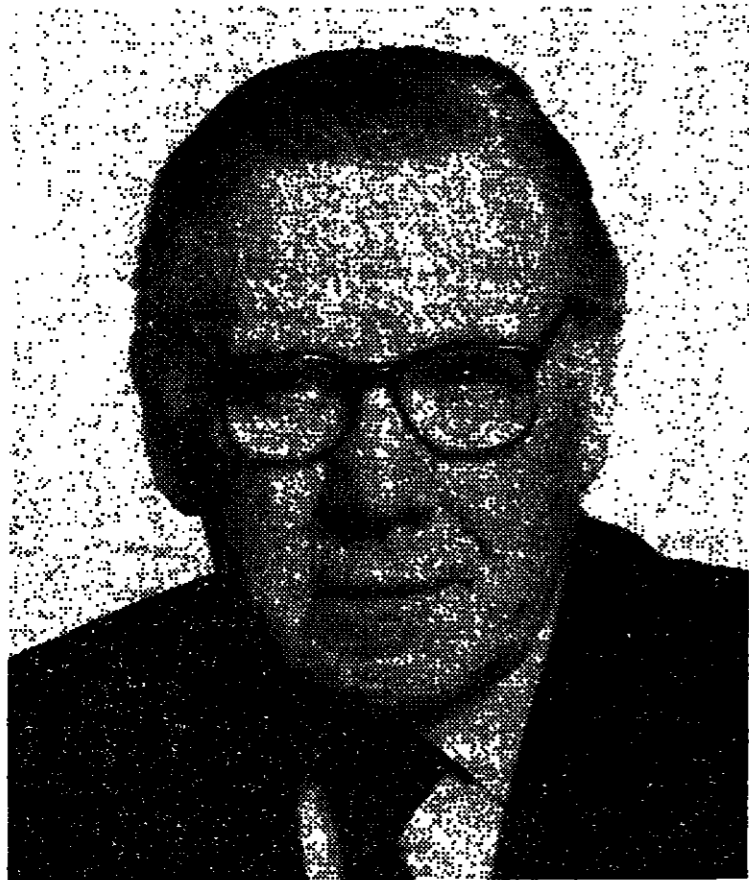
We've invested an all time record £112 million in UK retailing, and since July 1986 created a further 1200 jobs under the YTS. Our community programme continues to develop new areas of activity, stimulating enterprise and encouraging new businesses, particularly in the North East.

If you're in the market for an investment with a future, we're sure we've got the very thing you have in mind.

The Burton Group plc.
Successfully Managing Change

British Airways Plc

The Board of British Airways Plc announces pre-tax profits of £141 million for the half year to 30 September 1986.



CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

When I reported our results for 1985-86 in May, I said that the fall off in business that British Airways and others in the airline industry and associated travel industries were facing was serious.

Following the incidents in Chernobyl and Libya in April 1986, traffic in terms of passenger numbers and revenue passenger kilometres (RPKs) on scheduled services fell substantially. In the quarter to 30 June 1986 the passenger numbers and RPKs were down respectively 5.8 per cent and 11.3 per cent compared with the previous year. The downturn was particularly marked on the North Atlantic routes where the reductions were respectively 19.8 per cent and 19.6 per cent.

We judged that the fall in demand had been irrational. We deliberately decided not to reduce capacity except marginally. Instead, we set about restoring market confidence. The imaginative marketing campaigns "Go For It, America" and "Concorde Challenge" led the way, and, I think, led our competitors. By the end of the period, cumulative North Atlantic passenger numbers were 12.9 per cent down and RPKs were 13.1 per cent down while the corresponding figures across the whole network were only 2.8 per cent and 7 per cent down on the same period in 1985.

In addition to the sales campaigns, cost control was intensified. Many of our staff volunteered for work in the terminals at Heathrow. As a result of these efforts, recruitment was curtailed and staff numbers at 30 September 1986 were about the same as a year ago.

Turnover for the half year ended 30 September 1986 amounted to £1,696 million, against £1,743 million, for the same period last year. Profit before tax for the period amounted to £141 million against £201 million for the comparable half year.

After taking account of reduced fuel prices, from which the airline has benefited significantly, the airline operating surplus in the quarter to 30 June 1986 was £38 million, against £90 million in the comparable quarter a year ago. With the recovery in traffic in the second quar-

	Six months ended 30 September		*Year ended
	1986 £m	1985 £m	31 March 1986 Restated £m
Turnover			
Airline	1,559	1,640	2,981
Other	137	103	168
	1,696	1,743	3,149
Airline operating surplus			
First quarter	38	90	
Second quarter	113	115	
	151	205	205
Operating profit/(loss) on other activities			
Continuing	1	2	(4)
Discontinued (Note 1)	(1)	(1)	(3)
Other income	7	16	36
	158	222	234
Interest payable	(17)	(28)	(47)
Currency profits/(losses)	-	7	8
	141	201	195
Taxation (Note 2)	(4)	(1)	(2)
	137	200	193
Extraordinary item (Note 1)	4	-	(12)
Transfer to reserves	£141m	£200m	£181m

NOTE 1 Other activities discontinued relates to British Airways Helicopters Limited (BAHL) which was sold prior to 30 September 1986. The extraordinary item for this period relates to the disposal of BAHL together with another minor subsidiary. A provision of £12 million was made against the investment in BAHL in 1985-86. This has now been restated as an extraordinary item.

NOTE 2 The taxation charge relates to UK taxation of subsidiaries and overseas tax. No provision is required for UK Corporation Tax in British Airways Plc because of the availability of losses brought forward. On present estimates no provision is likely to be required until the next financial year.

*Comparative figures for the year to 31 March 1986 have been extracted from the audited accounts of British Airways Plc and its subsidiaries adjusted as indicated in Note 1 above. The auditors issued an unqualified report on the above-mentioned accounts, copies of which have been delivered to the Secretary of State for Transport and filed with the Registrar of Companies.

ter, the surplus in that quarter was little different from the level achieved a year ago, reduced fuel prices again having had a significant effect. In the half year to 30 September 1985 there were £24 million of foreign exchange losses on the settlement of overseas receivables less payables, most of which arose in the second quarter. These have not recurred in the current half year.

In the quarter to 30 June 1986, there were some reductions in passenger numbers and RPKs on many of our other routes, but these were less than for the North Atlantic and there was some recovery in the second quarter. The South African business has been adversely affected by conditions there. Domestic business in the UK improved, with Super Shuttle services producing good results. The Japanese business benefited from the strength of the yen.

Since 12 April 1986 all British Airways' intercontinental services, together with those to Amsterdam and Paris, have operated at the new Terminal 4 at Heathrow. The transfer took place during the night of 11-12 April and was accomplished satisfactorily. Terminal 4 has established new standards in customer service.

In September 1986 British Airways Helicopters was sold at a loss for which provision had been made in 1984-85 and 1985-86. The Directors believe that this was in the best interests of British Airways in view of the depressed state of the North Sea oil and gas market.

During the half year to 30 September 1986, the balance sheet has been strengthened by the further addition to reserves and further loan repayments. The debt:equity ratio at 30 September 1986 is 36:64 compared with 44:56 at 31 March 1986 and our debt at 30 September 1986 had fallen to £353 million.

In October British Airways placed orders for 16 of the Boeing 747-400 series aircraft equipped with Rolls-Royce RB211 engines, with options on a further 12. The replacement of the Boeing 747-100s with the new Boeing 747-400 series, for delivery starting in spring 1989, complements the modernisation of the shorthaul fleet. British Airways has also entered into contracts with a banking syndicate under which these aircraft will be made available, at British Airways' option, on an operating lease basis.

Over the last three months we have also reorganised our marketing organisation into a world sales and customer service structure to make us even more responsive to the market place in every part of the world.

Competition remains strong and the European Community is no exception. We welcome the action being taken by the Government and the European Commission to reduce barriers to competition so as to open up the Community market to greater opportunities for British Airways.

The events that occurred in the first quarter were unprecedented: there was a decline in airline operating surplus of £52 million over the corresponding period last year, whilst the second quarter was comparable with the corresponding quarter a year ago. That was the scale of the recovery in our fortunes and the response of the airline's staff and the scale of the British Airways worldwide route network confirms the Board's confidence in our future prospects.

LORD KING OF WARTNABY
17 November 1986

BRITISH AIRWAYS

Britain's highest flying company.

10/21/86

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Equities steady

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began on November 10. Dealings end on Friday. Contango day next Monday. Settlement day December 1.

Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Where stocks have only one price quoted, these are middle prices taken daily at 5pm. Yield, change and P/E ratio are calculated on the middle price.

Portfolio Gold

From your portfolio card check your eight share price movements. Add them up to give you your overall total. Tick this against the daily dividend figure published on this page. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming.

Table with columns: No., Company, Group, Code or Index. Lists various companies like Isonro, Barclays, Garber Energy, etc.

Please take account of any minus signs

Weekly Dividend. Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £8,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

Table with columns: MON, TUE, WED, THU, FRI, SAT, SUN. For weekly dividend tracking.

BRITISH FUNDS

High Low Stock Price Change

SHORTS (Under Five Years)

Table listing short-term stock prices and changes.

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

Table listing stock prices for the 5-15 year period.

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

Table listing stock prices for the over 15 year period.

UNDATED

Table listing undated stock prices.

INDEX LINKED

Table listing index-linked stock prices.

BANKS DISCOUNT HP

Table listing bank discount rates.

BREWERIES

Table listing brewery stock prices.

BUILDINGS AND ROADS

Table listing buildings and roads stock prices.

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

Table listing chemicals and plastics stock prices.

CINEMAS AND TV

Table listing cinemas and TV stock prices.

DRAPERY AND STORES

Table listing drapery and stores stock prices.

ELECTRICALS

Table listing electricals stock prices.

FINANCE AND LAND

Table listing finance and land stock prices.

FOODS

Table listing food stock prices.

HOTELS AND CATERERS

Table listing hotels and caterers stock prices.

INDUSTRIALS A-D

Table listing industrial stock prices (A-D).

INDUSTRIALS E-K

Table listing industrial stock prices (E-K).

INSURANCE

Table listing insurance stock prices.

LEISURE

Table listing leisure stock prices.

MINING

Table listing mining stock prices.

MOTORS AND AIRCRAFT

Table listing motors and aircraft stock prices.

NEWSPAPERS AND PUBLISHERS

Table listing newspapers and publishers stock prices.

OIL

Table listing oil stock prices.

OVERSEAS TRADERS

Table listing overseas traders stock prices.

PAPER, PRINTING, ADVERTG

Table listing paper, printing, and advertising stock prices.

PROPERTY

Table listing property stock prices.

SHIPPING

Table listing shipping stock prices.

SHOES AND LEATHER

Table listing shoes and leather stock prices.

TEXTILES

Table listing textiles stock prices.

TOBACCO

Table listing tobacco stock prices.

Portfolio Gold - Daily Dividend £4,000. Claims required for +38 points. Claimants should ring 0254-53272.

Table listing various stock prices under the Portfolio Gold section.

OVERSEAS TRADERS

Table listing overseas traders stock prices.

PAPER, PRINTING, ADVERTG

Table listing paper, printing, and advertising stock prices.

PROPERTY

Table listing property stock prices.

SHIPPING

Table listing shipping stock prices.

SHOES AND LEATHER

Table listing shoes and leather stock prices.

TEXTILES

Table listing textiles stock prices.

TOBACCO

Table listing tobacco stock prices.

Ex dividend & Ex Div to Forecast dividend & Interim payment passed. Price at settlement & Dividend and Forecast earnings & Ex Div & Ex rights & Ex scrip & share split & Tax-free. No significant data.

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

Main table containing unit trust information with columns for name, bid, offer, change, and yield. Includes sections for ASSET UNIT TRUST MANAGERS, INVESTMENT MANAGERS, and various fund categories like EQUITY, FIXED INCOME, and SPECIALIST.

UNLISTED SECURITIES table with columns for company name, bid, offer, change, and P/E ratio. Lists various unlisted companies and their financial metrics.

INVESTMENT TRUSTS table with columns for trust name, bid, offer, change, and P/E ratio. Lists various investment trusts and their performance.

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

Table of financial trusts including LONDON POTATO EXCHANGE, LONDON MEAT FUTURES EXCHANGE, and LONDON GRAIN FUTURES EXCHANGE, with columns for month, open, close, and high/low prices.

COMMODITIES

Table of commodities including LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE, LONDON METAL EXCHANGE, and LONDON FUEL OIL, with columns for item, bid, offer, and price.

LONDON TRADING

Vertical text on the right side of the page, likely containing market news or commentary related to the trading data.

Where stocks have only one price quoted, these are middle prices taken daily at 5pm. Yield, change and P/E are calculated on the middle price.

APPOINTMENTS

Shandwick Communications Mr Alan Mole becomes chairman, and Mr Basil Towers managing director. Miss Claudia Oliver becomes a director.

Herbert Cottrell: Mr S A Greaves becomes a director. Mr Bernard Andley is a non-executive director.

Warburg & Co. Mr S A Zimmernann has been appointed joint chairman, Mercury Warburg Investment Management.

MONEY MARKET AND GOLD

Table with columns for Bond Rates, Discount Rates, Treasury Bills, Prime Bank Bills, and Euro Money Deposits.

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

Table with columns for First Dealings, Last Dealings, Last Declaration, and For Settlement.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

Table with columns for Three Month Starting, Open, High, Low, Close, and Set Val.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Table with columns for Sterling Index, Other Sterling Rates, and Dollar Spot Rates.

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Table with columns for Market rates, 1 month, 3 months, 6 months, and 12 months.

RECENT ISSUES

Table with columns for Series, Date, Call, Put, and Price.

LONDON TRADED OPTIONS

Large table with columns for Series, Date, Call, Put, and Price for various options.

CAR BUYERS' GUIDE

JAGUAR & DAIMLER AUTHORIZED DEALERS. FIRST FOR JAGUAR IN BARNET BAR NONE.

HADLEY GREEN GARAGE. REIGATE JAGUAR (07372) 41100.

JAGUAR & DAIMLER. SOLIHULL 021 745 5566.

COMPANY CHAIRMAN. Jaguar XJS V12 coupe.

NEW Jaguar Sovereign 3.5. October 1986.

XJS V12. May 1986 (C). Steel body.

NEW JAGUAR XJS 3.5 Cabriolet. June 1986.

THE JAGUAR XJS 1983. 1973-1983.

SOVEREIGN 3.5. 1984. 1984-1985.

NEW JAGUAR available now. 1986.

JAGUAR XJS 3.5. 1986. 1986-1987.

NEW JAGUAR available now. 1986.

JAGUAR XJS 3.5. 1986. 1986-1987.

JAGUAR & DAIMLER WANTED. SAAB.

SAAB. SAAB TURBO 3 door. 1984 (B).

ROLLS-ROYCE & BENTLEY AUTHORIZED DEALERS. ARNETT OF BOURNEMOUTH.

MERCEDES. Von Page-Retloff. NEW 1987 190E L2000.

ROLLS-ROYCE & BENTLEY. GERALD CAPPS. 1984 Cloud III.

ROLLS-ROYCE CORNICHE SALOON. Gold metallic.

ROLLS ROYCE SILVER SPIRIT 1981. Cotswold Range 1 owner.

SILVER SPUR 1986 (C). February. One owner.

SILVER SHADOW (1981). Gold metallic.

280SL. 1985, 'C' registered.

ROLLS-ROYCE & BENTLEY WANTED. ALTERNATIVE & BENTLEY.

MERCEDES. 280 TE. Wimbledon Carriage Company.

MERCEDES. 230E. automatic, mint condition.

MERCEDES. 280 SL. 1985, 'C' registered.

MERCEDES. 280 SL. 1985, 'C' registered.

MERCEDES. 280 SL. 1985, 'C' registered.

MERCEDES. 280 SL. 1985, 'C' registered.

MOTORS LEASING

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Continued on page 37

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Designing the home with you in mind

Britain needs to build 200,000 new homes a year until the end of the century to meet demand. The National House-Building Council, celebrating its 50th anniversary, is putting the emphasis on construction quality

Housing is a matter of great interest for most people. They either have a home or want one. But increasingly in the past year or two housing is becoming big news as well.

The Thatcher Government set out to increase home ownership, and has done so, largely through its right-to-buy legislation enabling council tenants to cross the divide to ownership.

Since 1979, home ownership has increased by about two million households, half of which is attributable to council house sales, and now stands at 62 per cent, with 64 per cent in England.

That has given housing a high profile, but there is nothing like the involvement of the Royal Family to boost it still further. The Duke of Edinburgh headed an inquiry into British housing last year and its controversial conclusions included the need for a new financial structure involving the phasing out of mortgage tax relief.

Such a suggestion was swiftly dismissed by Mrs Thatcher, but the seed was sown, and Prince Philip, writing recently in *The Times*, expressed the belief that his committee's proposals were gradually gaining acceptance.

Then, of course, Prince Charles stepped into the arena at the National House-Building Council's conference in London last month.

Eschewing pleasantries in a prepared text which had him

saying, "I have to declare an interest. In fact several. I live in a house. In fact several", he launched into an attack on house-builders for concentrating on greenfield sites rather than building in the inner cities.

It was an accusation that led Lord Northfield, head of Consortium Developments, which is trying to build several new towns, to claim that the Prince had been hijacked by the Loony Green Brigade.

Prince Charles's comments were immediately refuted by the House-Builders Federation, but they remain on the record.

The latest figures for house-building give a more optimistic view. In the first nine months of this year there were 149,500 private housing starts in Britain, 15 per cent up on the third quarter of last year and 14 per cent up on the first nine months of 1985. It shows that the NHBC's 1986 forecast of 150,000 starts will be far exceeded.

The industry has the highest rate of starts for past 12 years

Basil Bean, NHBC director-general, said the situation for the house-building industry was very healthy, with the highest rate of starts for the past 12 years. But he added: "How long this situation will continue will depend on the availability of land for private housing and whether or not interest rates remain at the present level."

One of the most dramatic increases in starts is in Greater London, where the figure for the third quarter is up 55 per cent on the corresponding period last year. This goes to emphasize the regional differences, because in

Merseyside and the West Midlands the figures are down by 28 per cent and 33 per cent respectively.

The NHBC statistics show that completions for the third quarter in England and Wales were 50,400, 15 per cent higher than for the third quarter last year, and 1986 completions so far at 131,900, are 10 per cent up on the first nine months of 1985.

Home ownership continues its upward climb, but there are signs that it is reaching the top. John Patten, the Housing Minister, believes it can reach 70 per cent. Mrs Thatcher has set her sights on 80 per cent and surveys by the Building Societies Association and others indicate that more than 80 per cent want to own their own homes.

It is estimated that Britain needs about 200,000 new houses built every year to the end of the century to provide for new households and to replace old stock, and with the decline of the public sector, the private sector must provide most.

It has not yet achieved the necessary target, although this year it may be close. Looking ahead, Mr Bean believes that design and construction of houses will change.

As it celebrates its 50th anniversary, the NHBC sees its second half-century widening the need for its services into areas now being opened up, such as building control, the repair of prefabricated reinforced concrete (PRC) homes and in achieving new standards of quality control which the Government is looking to introduce throughout British industry.

House-builders have long been lobbying the Government in an effort to persuade it that more land should be released. But there is little hope that this will happen soon, particularly in the Conservative shires with a



A forest of "for sale" signs, but most young people find the cost of their first homes beyond their pocket

general election almost within sight.

Despite what Prince Charles said, they are building in the inner cities as much as possible. As they point out: "if there is land available to build on and we can build houses that people want and can afford, we will do so."

To attract people, both in the cities and outside, more attention than ever is being paid to design, to make sure that every section of the market gets what it wants.

First-time buyers, retired people, single people — there is an increasing market here both for young singles and divorcees — all have their different requirements, and architects and designers have

to combine with the builders to ensure that the product is right.

The other main development in attempting to bring more people into home ownership is in private-sector financing of joint schemes, with the building societies in the forefront as their powers are set to expand from January 1.

They can help, particularly in the inner cities, and they are already involved in one initiative which has achieved reasonable success: shared ownership.

This scheme, in which the buyer has part of his or her house on mortgage and pays rent for the remainder, enables him to take the first step

on the ladder, after which he can continue the climb, transferring more of the rented part to a mortgage until, it is hoped, he owns it completely.

The equation still has to balance for both the buyer and for the building society, and the question of who — government, directly or indirectly, or building society — picks up the bill for the subsidized rented part has not yet been resolved.

It is an area which shows that the builder cannot alone solve Britain's housing problems. The Government and the financial institutions must help.

Christopher Warman
Property Correspondent



Stepping into the arena: Prince Charles with Basil Bean, the NHBC director general

Better security to beat the burglars

Security in the home has become one of the major issues in today's housing market, as burglaries soar and the combined forces of the police, courts, penalties and threat of imprisonment seem unable to contain the losses — and personal worry — such crimes entail.

Douglas Hard, the Home Secretary, reported to the NHBC's 50th anniversary conference last month that in 1985 there were about 450,000 residential burglaries, representing 13 per cent of all recorded crime. The actual number is almost certainly higher. An analysis of the British Crime Survey, which collected data on unreported as well as reported crime, suggested that in 1983 there were more than 900,000 residential burglaries, a rate of 49 per 1,000 households.

But the survey also found that in the same year as many as 200,000 attempted burglaries failed because of the security measures adopted by householders.

It is to combat these statistics that the NHBC set up a working party under the chairmanship of Graham Pye, chairman and managing director of the Pye Group of Companies and immediate past president of the House-Builders Federation.

New builders are nothing if not pragmatists, so the Pye report is the result of practical and realistic measures which can be taken, with one eye firmly on what the customer wants and has the willingness to pay for.

Apart from better layouts of estates to ensure that neighbours can overlook communal areas, the main recommendations dealt with making forced entry to homes more difficult.

Front doors and windows at ground-floor level are the burglar's first target. Front doors provide 24 per cent with the means of entry, back doors 17 per cent. Forcing doors, insecure doors, and breaking the glass in doors provide access in 38 per cent of cases.

Improved standards of door, bigger rebates to the frame, toughened glass and deadlock latches are recommended, as well as door chains, viewers and extra bolts.

"Trickle" ventilators are recommended for windows, rather than fanlights, which are popular for ventilation. Forcing, breaking, and insecure windows amount to 45 per cent of break-ins.

The cost of these extra security measures is not large, about £200 for the average home. The Pye guidance note indicates that this is made up as follows: front door £45, rear door £24, patio door £29, and ground-floor windows £102.

In future, house-builders' action on security should ensure that an Englishman's home will be his fortress, in all but appearance. Meanwhile the Department of the Environment is working on "best practice" handbooks to improve local authority estates as well.

Charles Kneivitt
Architecture Correspondent

NHBC



years service to the British Home-Buyer

Many more retirement homes are being built for the affluent over-55s. Prices are high, but so are standards

It is estimated that one in 10 of all private housing starts is now designed, built and sold exclusively to retired people, representing an amazing growth in a sector identified only during the past few years and which up to three years ago had seen only about 2,500 purpose-built units completed.

The estimate comes from research by Dr Malcolm Parry and Dr Stephen Baker from the University of Surrey, who in 1983 suggested that the market for retirement homes was between 250,000 and 400,000 and that 20,000 units must be built each year to satisfy the demand.

That target has not yet been reached, but the demand is certainly there, and the latest indications are that builders are trying their best to satisfy it.

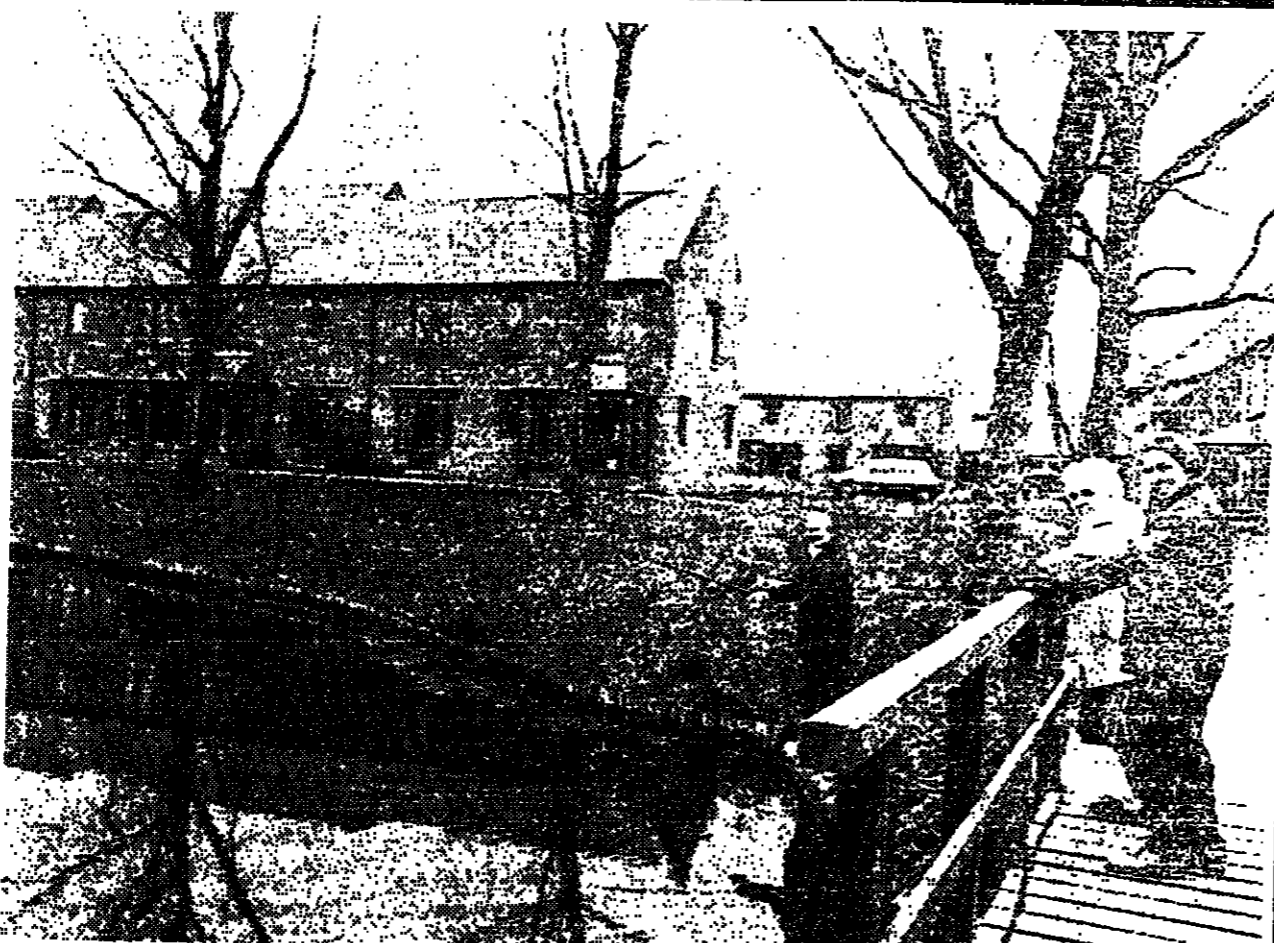
There is, after all, a large proportion of Britain's wealth locked up by the over-55s who in many cases are living in houses too big for their needs now that they are "empty nesters" - their children having left home.

As with any new market, errors were made, some simple such as in design, where insufficient thought was given to the needs of older people.

Increasing awareness and expertise, and the involvement of building organizations which have laid down guide-lines, have eliminated many of these faults, but now the market is growing it is having to tackle new challenges.

The early retirement houses and flats were almost entirely for the active retired, from the age of 55 and, while need for these continues, there is increasingly a requirement for more sheltered accommodation for the older and less active.

A joint working party of the House-Builders Federation and the National Housing and



Autumn days by the trout lake: retired folk at Beechcroft's scheme at Bearwater, Hungerford

The 'empty-nesters'

Town Planning Council monitoring the market says purchasers do not wish to buy a standard product. Their requirements range from basic design modifications and an alarm system discreetly designed into a bungalow or flat, to high level care including a warden, communal facilities, and comprehensive services.

It believes the key element in the success of housing for the elderly is a close integration of plans for the management of a development and its design, and believes that in most cases housebuilders should leave the management to existing management firms.

A new edition of *A Buyer's Guide To Sheltered Housing*, published by Age Concern and the NHTPC last week sets out advice for purchasers. While welcoming the expansion of sheltered housing, David Hobman, director of Age Concern England, expressed concern about reports of various problems such as excessive increases in service charges,

dissatisfaction with the warden, and resale restrictions. Prices are indeed high, partly because of the need to site retirement homes in good locations - on level ground, near shops and other amenities - which has put a premium on suitable land. The leading developer in the field, McCarthy and Stone, has recognized the need to cater for people as they grow older and now provides not only traditional sheltered homes, but also intermediate care, which includes a range of extra services including cleaning and the provision of meals in addition to the warden assistance.

McCarthy and Stone has set up a new division, HomeLife Care, with the intention of developing six nursing care schemes a year, and the Lifecare Group provides a progression of developments to help owners as they grow older.

Anglia Secure Homes, based mainly in Essex and East Anglia, has plans for

intermediate care developments, having started as a builder of normal retirement homes, to allow customers to move on within the same firm.

Another example is Markfield Court, Markfield Village, Leicestershire, being built by Pinewood Homes, which is claimed to be the first development of its kind in Britain - a complete retirement village, set away from town or city life in the countryside eight miles from Leicester.

Designed for the over 55s, it has one- and two-bedroom bungalows and flats, carefully designed and with a 24-hour alarm system, and also a nursing and residential home with full medical facilities.

The development will also include shopping facilities and a leisure club, and prices for the homes range from £26,000 to £40,000 through Spencers New Homes of Leicester.

Demand for retirement homes is strong at all levels of the market. Beechcroft's

delightful scheme at Bearwater, Hungerford, recently completed, is set in five acres with a trout lake and a few minutes walk from the town centre.

Of 35 cottages and flats, prices from £65,000 to £90,000, only three flats at around £70,000 remain for sale through Knight Frank and Rutley's Hungerford office.

One of the leading firms at the top end of the market, The English Courtyard Association, has completed seven developments, and another two are being built. They include The Vinery at Torquay, Devon, the company's first apartment block.

So far, its schemes have been designed as traditional courtyards on the lines of Oxford quadrangles. But The Vinery, near the harbour, will have 30 apartments, mostly with two bedrooms, costing £70,000 to £90,000, and three-bedroom and penthouse apartments. CW

More builders are joining the NHBC's warranty scheme

How £100 million was paid to unhappy clients

Builders' mistakes account for some of the biggest negligence claims going through the courts now. But despite an abundance of horror tales about cowboy builders, buyers of new houses now have considerable legal protection against errors or shoddy work.

The National House-Building Council, this year celebrating 50 years of service to the British home-buyer, acts as a consumer watchdog in the private house-building industry.

It is an independent, non-profit-making body approved under statute, whose council members are nominated by the building societies, building employers' associations, consumer groups and the professions.

It sets minimum standards of construction, inspecting homes as they are built and by offering a 10-year warranty to protect buyers against loss.

This is done by means of a levy on the builder. The number of builders on the NHBC national register has steadily increased and now just under 25,000, or 99 per cent, are members.

Since the 10-year warranty scheme was launched in 1965, compensation of more than £100 million has been paid to more than 30,000 home-buyers.

Claims last year totalled £10 million, which is higher than the council would like; but most of the payments related to homes built in the 1970s and standards have since been raised. The biggest number (a total £2.5 million) relate to subsidence and heave of foundations; but the council points out that these date back 10 years. Builders who want to build on sites where ground might be unstable must have an engineer design foundations specifically for that site.

The second biggest category of claims concerned flat roofs (£2.4 million); then super-structure, including brickwork and render failure and sulphate attack (excluding roofs and floors.) Under the warranty, builders are directly responsible for defects which come to light in the first two years, with the

exception of central-heating boilers and electrical installations with moving parts, which are covered only for a year. The house-buyer has to deal with the builder direct. If he fails to act, the council will offer conciliation and arbitration, backing the buyer in getting the defect remedied. Builders who fail to take action face being struck off the register. Last year 39 firms faced that penalty, almost half for failing to remedy defects, another quarter for failing to honour arbitration.

For defects coming to light between three and 10 years after the house is built, the council itself takes liability for all major damage caused by failure to comply with minimum building requirements; in the structure or caused by subsidence or heave, up to a limit of £114,000.

Home-buyers are also provided with a Home Owners Handbook and Information Card which gives details of the construction of their particular house, such as the location of stop cocks and main fuses.

Until recently the protection was confined to buyers of new

properties. The NHBC has now launched a six-year warranty to cover buyers of newly converted flats and houses. But it is optional for builders to belong to this scheme and only a small proportion do.

Buyers would do well to make sure the flat they want to buy is covered, or those converting properties, that their builder is on the special NHBC conversion register. Again, the builder or developer is liable for the first year, and after that the council up to a limit of £50,000.

The council, which exists to promote better housing standards as well as to safeguard home-buyers, last year took on another important role: it is now a government-approved inspector, providing building-control services alongside

those provided by local authorities. The council has taken the task on because a high proportion of the worst defects in houses in the last 20 years have been caused by clear breaches of building regulations: which were averaging six in every dwelling.

Most of the largest builders have indicated they will use the NHBC's Building Control Services, the company set up to take on the inspection.

It will inspect site layout plans, meet builders on site to discuss any problems and help them comply with building regulations.

For buyers of homes where builders have used the council's own inspection services, there is a wider insurance cover so that - for example - breaches of the drains and fire regulations are insured for the first time. Faults are still being found with new-house construction; but many of the most frequent ones have been eradicated.

Foundations may still be a problem, but the council found that many claims arose from the removal or planting of trees on shrinkable clay soils. It therefore researched the moisture demand of trees and has now issued new guidance to builders on foundations depths for clay sites where there are or have been trees.

Similarly with roof insulation. Many people suffered frozen water tanks and pipes in roof spaces last winter. Roof spaces in new homes are now well-insulated and if placed under the pipework and water tank, these are no longer warmed by the heat of the house.

The NHBC then brought in a new standard ensuring insulation went over the top of pipes and tanks to avoid frost damage.

In time the council may be able to expand its warranty protection beyond flat conversions to all building work done on existing homes.

Frances Gibb
Legal Affairs
Correspondent



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The big race to build it yourself

While the war of words between the Government, greening its policies and the house-building industry, searching for greenfield development sites rages on, a much more significant aspect of the housing market surges ahead virtually unnoticed and unremarked.

Self-builders built more homes in 1985 than either Barratt or Wimpey, traditionally the country's top firms.

The burgeoning movement shows no signs of letting up, and while private sector house-builders are increasing their number of completions this year, self-builders seem likely to hold onto third place in the league.

Building societies now treat self-build as a genuine and respectable part of the market, largely replacing the Housing Corporation as a source of finance. Their role is likely to expand considerably as a result of the Building Societies Act 1966, which comes into effect on January 1.

Woolwich Housing Development Department, for example, set up three years ago, spent around £26 million last year on more than 80 new projects ranging from shared-ownership, interest-only improvement loans for the purchase of sheltered accommodation, improvement for sale, low-cost housing and self-build.

Woolwich has four self-build projects on the go and the Halifax is funding 18 to the tune of about £18 million. As public sector investment in new housing continues to be squeezed by the Treasury, the building societies provide the natural alternative source of finance.

More than 50 per cent of gross domestic savings are deposited with them, and their assets increased five-fold between 1974 and 1984 to £103,000 million. Many of their depositors now wish to build their own homes.

Several other financial in-

situations are involved at a smaller scale; the Zenzele self-build housing project in Bristol, visited by the Prince earlier this year, received backing from the National Westminster Bank and the Bristol and West Building Society, in addition to the Housing Corporation and Department of Health and Social Security.

Similarly, the Colquhoun Street, Stirling, scheme, was funded with mortgages from the Abbey National and Scottish Building Societies.

But why do people opt for self-build when they have never been offered more choice by the construction industry? The main reason is cost-savings of at least a third, sometimes as much as 50 per cent.

Today it has never been easier to get started, either as an individual or as part of a group. Land and finance are readily available, many architects and building surveyors have gained experience in designing and supervising this type of project, and professional management consultants put the whole package together.

Insurance may be obtained, whether or not a scheme is accepted by the National House Building Council for its 10-year warranty.

Colin Wadsworth, of self-build housing management consultants Wadsworth & Palmer, Bristol, says: "We act as a catalyst, bringing people together, often by placing an advertisement in a local newspaper, and seeing through the scheme from start to finish". His fee is a percentage of the value of the properties built, typically six to seven per cent.

At any one time there are between 150 and 200 schemes underway throughout the country. The price of land varies between about £30,000 per acre in the North, to £200,000 in the South-West and as much as £400,000 in the South-East.

The advantage of using a consultancy are many; they



Inspector at work

The main job satisfaction for Bill Knight, left, an area manager with the National House-Building Council, comes from "ensuring that a property has been built that you would like to live in yourself". We were on our way to visit a block of retirement homes in Kent. The builder was registered with the NHBC, which meant the buyer would have a 10-year warranty.

Mr Knight accompanies inspectors occasionally and visits sites on his own to check documentation. On reaching the flats he called at the site office to inspect the site record book, which records an inspector's visits and comments. If something is wrong, a defect sheet is filled in. The sheet has 14 days in which to put the matter right - or Mr Knight sends the file to the regional director, who will ask for a meeting with the builder's managing director. If the response is unsatisfactory, the firm's name can be deleted from the register. If the builder walks off the site and an agreement has been exchanged to buy the house, the NHBC can have it completed and take the builder to court to recover the cost. No defects were found on this particular site.

An inspector has a varied workload and no two days are ever quite the same. NHBC requirements are even more stringent than the building regulations, thus ensuring a high standard of workmanship.

Joan Llewelyn Owens

can negotiate land purchase and the bulk purchase of materials from local suppliers, and tend to know where to find tradesmen who are essential to the success of the project - bricklayers, plasterers and plumbers.

As for the type of people who aspire to self-build, they are likely to be bank clerks, bus drivers or in the building industry themselves. "Morale is very important," says Mr Wadsworth. "There is no benefit in any member of the group packing in before they are finished".

Many groups have clauses in their agreements which can lead to the expulsion of anyone not pulling his - or her - weight. Dedication and perseverance are two key qualities which any self-builder requires.

Mr Wadsworth, an accountant, got into the business the hard way. When he married he couldn't afford to buy a home and decided to build one himself. This year he expects to complete about 700 houses, almost double the number of last year.

Obtaining mortgages has never been a problem, he claims, in the 22 years he has

Getting mortgages never a problem

been acting as a consultant. An architect's or surveyor's certificate is issued on completion of a house to obtain a five-year guarantee against any defective workmanship which is likely to show up during that period.

Another approach to self-build, developed by the architect Walter Segal, who died last year, is currently enjoying a revival. During the 1960s he developed a flexible system using standardized timber elements to build a home for his family of eight in a hurry. Its beauty lies in the simplicity of construction - anyone can build with a modicum of DIY nous - and the fact that it can easily be extended or altered at whim.

Mr Segal's former partner, Jon Broome, has now produced a guide to the system with the *Architect's Journal*, making low-cost housing available to many more people. The only aspect of self-build now apparently restraining it from even faster growth in the years ahead is that it still remains a possibility to the relatively few who

Access for the disabled

All of us are disabled at some time in our lives, through temporary injury such as a sprained ankle or broken arm, through illness and even such everyday chores as wheeling a pram through a narrow door or negotiating steps or a steep ramp.

Age takes its toll for many more people than are ever confined to wheelchairs or the use of crutches.

The "disabled" label is easily applied to individuals who want to do ordinary, everyday things: it is estimated that 10 million Britons can be categorized in this way.

The NHBC, with the Prince of Wales Advisory Group on Disability, has produced a checklist of how to make homes more accessible.

Five ways to improve access for all age groups were identified.

1. Access from the road or garage to the front door of the house which can be negotiated with a child in a pram, a person in a wheelchair or a person using crutches or a walking frame.

2. A safe standing area outside the entrance door big enough to park a pram, or wheelchair, or stand and manoeuvre crutches and walking frames.

3. A threshold which can be easily crossed.

4. Enough width in entrance door, entrance hall and corridor to manoeuvre.

5. Downstairs toilet.

House-builders have only recently recognized the needs of access and indeed identified

a new market for this type of provision. Barratt has made a special effort in the field since a private dinner on the subject hosted by the Prince of Wales at Kensington Palace.

Cross have been given in the checklist for additional provision, such as a ground-floor

for a toilet and draught lobby (£1,900), a toilet under the stairs leading off a hallway (£870), a room divider (£950) and the incorporation of a toilet between a kitchen and dining room (£900). Plans, sections and detailed constructional drawings illustrate how all these can be achieved.

Though builders will be able to carry out such alterations with ease, it always helps if the lay person understands their plans. The Access Committee for England last week published its own DIY guide, equipped with a scale rule so that home-owners and others can interpret the foreign language of construction drawings.

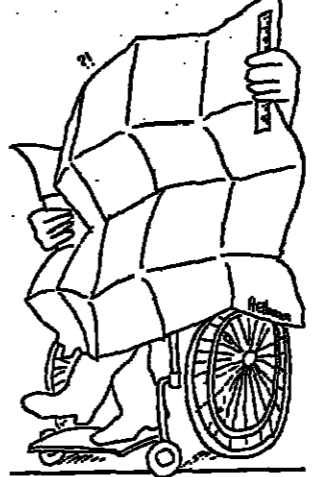
Written by Stephen Thorpe, an architect, and full of useful examples, *Reading Plans* is a natural complement to the NHBC's own checklist (£2.50 from Access Committee for England, 35 Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3BJ).

Both guides are a welcome contribution to increasing understanding of the issues affecting the disabled, access and mobility. But given the marginal increase in the cost of providing special facilities, there is no reason the measures should not be incorporated as standard in all new homes.

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READING PLANS

BY STEPHEN THORPE ARCH



A LAYMAN'S GUIDE TO THE INTERPRETATION OF ARCHITECTS' DRAWINGS

Access Committee for England

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SPORT



FOOTBALL

Atkinson still uncommitted to the Turkish cause

Ron Atkinson, considering an approach to become the manager of the Turkish national team, denied yesterday that an agreement was imminent.

The former Manchester United manager has asked the Turkish FA for further details and will not commit himself until he has taken a closer look at the offer.

"I haven't got a job and I've got to look at anything which comes up," he said. But his immediate plans involve a holiday somewhere in the sun — a passion of his which ranks alongside gold bracelets — and his friends feel that he is a long way from deciding to go to the Bosphorus, sunny as it frequently is.

Ferguson gives hope to Robson

Alex Ferguson yesterday offered a message of hope for his star player Bryan Robson, Manchester United supporter and the England manager when he affirmed his conviction that "a rigorous training programme" will end Robson's series of hamstring injuries.

until he is fully fit, a promising development for a player who all too often has been pressed into action before he is ready.

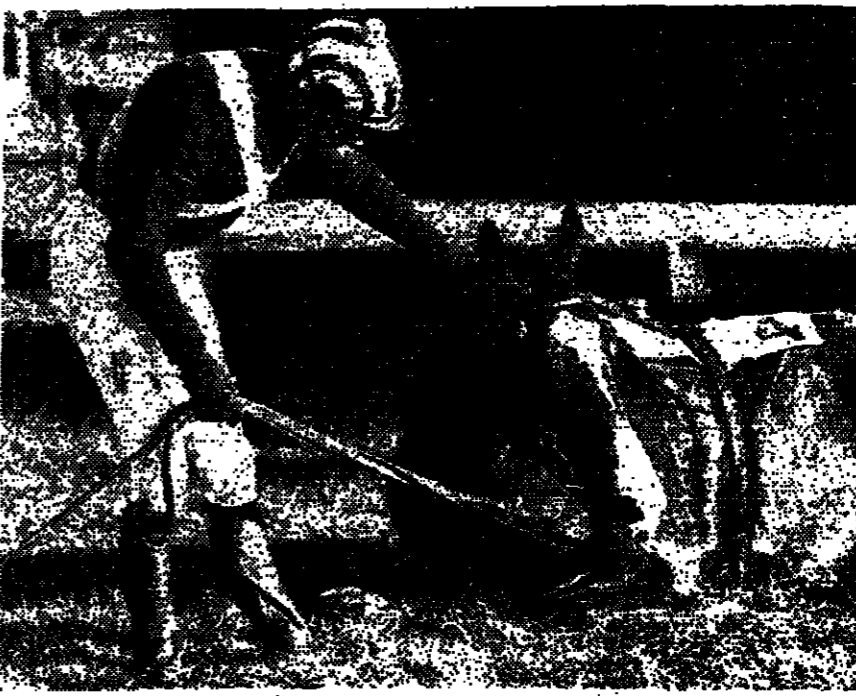
interested in the past, there was an implied criticism of his predecessor in his comment: "Hamstring injuries tend to suggest a lack of fitness, but I'm not saying that that is necessarily the case with Bryan".



Quality in an age of change.



The fall and rise of David Pitcher: Brinkwater, one of National Hunt racing's less gifted jumpers, provided Kempton racegoers with a spectacular moment in yesterday's Ladies III Handicap Chase when coming to grief in a horrifying last-fence fall (left). The 10-year-old and his owner-trainer-rider, David Pitcher, the 50-1 outsiders of four, finished up intertwined on the soggy Sunbury turf (centre). Remarkably, neither was hurt and seconds later Pitcher was able to sit up and console his partner (right). With the other three runners long gone, Pitcher rose to remount in his own time and, to the day's loudest cheers, completed the course to collect fourth prize money of £180. (Photographs: Hugh Routledge).



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England calm but Border crisis looms in the wake of defeat

From John Woodcock, Cricket Correspondent, Newcastle, New South Wales

While England were moving down here from Brisbane yesterday, in the hope of starting a four-day match against New South Wales this morning, there could be heard much weeping and gnashing of teeth. Having only last week been hailed as the saviour of the future, Australia's cricketers are now being called all the names under the sun.

Border himself blames the media for having written England off before the Test match started. When, at the press conference after the Test match, he was asked what he thought of England's performance, he snapped back: "It was exactly how I knew they could play, the opposite of what you experts were predicting."

and wanting nothing more than the chance of a game, this was not at all what they had hoped for.

It is a match that has always been played in the past at Sydney. There are two reasons for the switch to Newcastle: the states are looking to take some of their bigger games away from the capital cities in the hope of attracting better crowds (today's Sheffield Shield match between Victoria and Queensland is being played in the country town of Wangaratta), and the Pope, currently on his 32nd tour — two more than your

correspondent — has a one-day international on the Sydney cricket ground early next week. Australia are hoping that at least this will help them win the last Test match there in January.

New South Wales, current holders, and winners for three of the last four years, of the Sheffield Shield, have chosen six Test players — Holland, Lawson, Greg Matthews, Wang, Wellman and Whitney. Also in the side is Mark O'Neill, whose father, Norman, really was one of the attacking breed. Norman thinks that Mark, who scored three successive Shield hundreds last season, has a "shout" of getting into the Test side. Should Lawson bowl anything like decently he will almost certainly win a place in next week's second Test match in Perth. Although for the last year he has played very little because of injury, many, including certainly one Australian selector, felt a chance should have been taken with him in Brisbane.

There was a time when most of the Australian states fielded two leg spinners, one of them an all-rounder. Now Holland is pretty well the only one left; but he is 41, and it was 21 years ago that he first bowled against an England touring side. Say it though perhaps I shouldn't, it would be good to see him doing well here. It would be a bad day, if one too awful to contemplate, if leg spinners were ever to become extinct.

Chappell: critical

Norman is six behind

From Richard Streeton, Karachi

Viv Richards, with a studious 70, saved West Indies from complete calamity on a turning pitch when the third Test match with Pakistan began here yesterday. Following his recent lean form, Richards successfully overcame both a measure of self-doubt as well as some fine bowling by Pakistan. West Indies were 212 for seven by the close and, remembering that Pakistan have to bat last, were probably satisfied.

Both Abdul Qadir, bowling with his left hand heavily bandaged to protect a fractured finger, and Tauseef Ahmed turned the ball freely and another low scoring game seems to lie ahead. The series stands level at 1-1.

The pressure on Richards was enormous when he came to the crease at 94 for three and, had he failed, there is no doubt West Indies would have been dismissed for a poor total. He pushed Qadir for a single first ball and slowly found his touch without ever approaching his best form.

He swept, or square cut, the spinners as his confidence grew but, after reaching his fifty, he became increasingly subdued and, near the end, did not score for 25 minutes. Finally, he prodded forward to an off-break from Tauseef and Ramiz, fielding close in at silly

always punished anything loose but was fourth out when he flicked a low catch off his legs to mid-wicket. Dujon, the only century-maker on the tour so far, helped Richards add 61 for the fifth wicket before he was caught behind, trying to cut Qadir.

Harper dropped anchor from the start and, by the end, had managed six singles in 99 minutes. West Indies passed 200 in the 63rd over and Richards' dismissal came after a period when the scoring had come almost to a complete halt. Just before the end, Marshall was beaten by Tauseef's turn.

WEST INDIES: First innings
C G Greenidge c Salim Yousof b Mudassar Nazir 27
D L Haynes lbw b Imran Khan 33
R B Richardson c Asif Mujtaba b Salim Yousof 44
H A Gomes lbw b Abdul Qadir 48
* V A Richardson c Ramsoo Raja b Tauseef Ahmed 70
J Dujon c Salim Yousof b Abdul Qadir 79
R A Harper not out 5
R B Marshall c Tauseef Ahmed 4
C G Butler not out 1
Extras (b 4, lb 8, nb 2, w 1) 22
Total (7 wickets) 272
A H Gomes and C A Walsh to bat.
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-14, 2-45, 3-84, 4-110, 5-172, 6-204, 7-210.
OVERS: 1-14, 2-14, 3-14, 4-14, 5-14, 6-14, 7-14, 8-14, 9-14, 10-14, 11-14, 12-14, 13-14, 14-14, 15-14, 16-14, 17-14, 18-14, 19-14, 20-14.
PAKISTAN: Imtiaz Khan, Mudassar Nazir, Chaudhry, Ramsoo Raja, Imran Khan, Asif Mujtaba, Imran Khan (captain), Salim Yousof, Abdul Qadir, Salim Yousof, Tauseef Ahmed.

concerned, the indications are that Glamorgan and Derbyshire would be interested in signing the batsman who finished top of Yorkshire's averages again last season.

John Orwin, the former Gloucester and England lock forward, makes his Thorntree County Championship debut for his native Yorkshire against Durham at Morley tomorrow at the age of 33. Bradford-born Orwin, who now plays for Bedford, was a regular member of the Gloucestershire side for several seasons, including their recent championship winning years — 1983 and 1984.

Tokyo (Reuters) — North Korea have made a compromise offer over its demand to co-host the 1988 Seoul Olympic Games.

Science as legal path to success

By John Goodbody

Sebastian Coe yesterday urged competitors to use scientific research to improve performances rather than cheat by taking drugs.

He likened drugs taking to someone jumping a fence to avoid paying the entrance fee at a stadium and cited his own preparation to protect his Olympic 1500 metres title in 1984 to support his belief.

Resorting to drugs, he said, was unnecessary to reach high levels of performance when these could be better achieved through scientific research combined with good coaching "an unbeatable combination" he declared.

"Not to use the latest scientific research is a willful refusal to think. It is intellectually bereft," Coe told Britain's sports administrators at the Central Council of Physical Recreation conference in Bournemouth.

He gave such examples as blood chemistry analysis and isotopic assessment as valid ways for top level competitors to improve their performances.

Mr Howell wanted 100 per cent government funding for Britons to attend international sports meetings, the back up of secretarial work and exchange of information between governing bodies. "Our honesty and standards are as high as they have ever been. It is our duty to assert them."

Advertisement for Fowler's Black Powder, featuring a large image of a powder barrel and text describing its quality and uses.